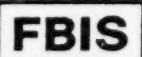


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Sub-Saharan Africa Report



FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

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28 OCTOBER 1986

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INTER-AFRICAN AFFAIRS

AFRICA-WIDE GERMAN ACTIVITY IN WATER SUPPLY DEVELOPMENT

Frankfurt/Main FRANKFURTER ZEITUNG/BLICK DURCH DIE WIRTSCHAFT in German
18 Aug 86 p 2

[Article by W. An., Frankfurt: "Large Number of Water Projects for Africa--Considerable Business for German Engineering Firms"]

[Text] Just as in the West African region (BLICK DURCH DIE WIRTSCHAFT, 10 Jun), now German technical consulting firms are also becoming active successfully in all of the other areas of the continent in the field of hydroeconomy. The projects are concerned primarily with water supply to areas threatened with drought. Special attention should be given to the activities of GKW Consult, Consulting Engineers for Water, Waste, and Sewerage Technology GmbH, Mannheim, which has been able to win new contracts in Egypt, Tunisia, Ruanda, Burundi, Somalia, Sudan, Kenya, Tanzania, and Zimbabwe.

In Egypt, GKW Consult was made responsible for preparation of a study regarding water supply to the city of Gizeh and in Tunisia for carrying out operational planning for waste water removal in the Tunis metropolitan area. In Ruanda the company assumed responsibility for preparing a water supply feasibility study. In Burundi, it was entrusted with construction supervision for water supply to the capital city of Bujumbura. In the eastern part of the continent, in Somalia, GKW Consult was awarded the contract for operational planning and construction supervision with regard to water supply activities. It is involved in rural water supply measures in Sudan. In Kenya the firm is charged with hydroeconomy operations management. In Tanzania the company is involved as a consortium partner in the field of water supply, and in Zimbabwe it is also consulting as member of a consortium involved in the development of rural irrigation facilities.

The firm of H.P. Gauff Engineers GmbH & Co., Nuremberg/Frankfurt, was given new consulting assignments in Kenya, Uganda, and Zambia. In Kenya it was granted responsibility for managing an emergency program for improving water supply to the city of Kisumu, after already having completed a feasibility study and preliminary project design for water supply and treatment in Kisumu. This project is being financed by the Federal Republic of Germany with the assistance of the KfW [Credit Institute for Reconstruction] in Frankfurt.

In Uganda, Gauff Engineers were called upon for construction and expansion of water supply and treatment facilities in the cities of Kampala, Entebbe, and Jinja. Following the completion of feasibility studies, master plans, preliminary project design, and final construction planning, Gauff Engineers were also awarded responsibility for preparing competitive bidding documents and for supervising construction work. The World Bank has assumed financing for the project, which will require expenditures amounting to DM50 million. In Uganda Gauff Engineers also received a contract for supervising construction activity on a 14 kilometer-long water pipeline (40 to 60 centimeters in diameter) for supplying water to the capital of Kampala, a project which should be completed by about the middle of 1987. Project financing (DM10 million) is being done by the European Development Fund.

In Zambia, Gauff Engineers have been included in a project concerned with the rehabilitation and, to some extent, new construction of wells in rural areas in the central and eastern province, as well as with carrying out drillings in the same areas in order to find supplies of water. The costs, which have been estimated at about DM5 million, are being financed by the KfW. Gauff Engineers are carrying out the required activities in close cooperation with the native population and with local authorities.

AHT Agricultural and Hydrotechnology GmbH, of Essen, has recently won contracts in Tunisia, Sudan, Lesotho, and Mozambique. In Tunisia they are concerned with evaluating the irrigation system connected to the Bou Heurtma Dam, which was built with German capital assistance. In addition, in Tunisia AHT was called upon in connection with expansion of the Jendouba Project and as a consortium partner in the Ras El-Djebel irrigation project. In Sudan AHT was awarded a contract as member of a consortium for rehabilitating NAPC [not further identified] irrigation projects. In Lesotho the firm assumed responsibility for preparing a study on small-scale irrigation. In Mozambique it was given a subcontract for making a study on infulene water control.

GZW German Water Engineering GmbH, Lingen/Ems, is active in Ethiopia and Sudan. In Ethiopia the firm assumed consulting responsibilities regarding water supply to Arba Minch. In Sudan GWE was called upon for work involving water supply expansion in an area where a large number of refugees are being housed, whereby the demand for water has increased.

Salzgitter Consult GmbH, Salzgitter, has become actively involved in Ethiopia, Kenya, and Zimbabwe. The company is carrying out consulting assignments in Ethiopia involving a project undertaken by the state-owned Ethiopian Electric Light and Power Authority (EELPA), which is concerned with water diversion from the Amarti River into the Finchaa Reservoir via a tunnel 1,550 meters in length. In connection with this project, which requires investment expenditures amounting to DM61 million, an earthworks dam 18 meters high is also being erected.

In Kenya Salzgitter Consult GmbH is involved in the integrated development program in the Machakos area. Among other things, this project is concerned with construction of the 17.5 meter high Manooni Dam for supplying water to a

rural population numbering 21,400 persons, as well as with the provision of irrigation for agricultural cropland. Salzgitter Consult GmbH has also taken on consulting assignments for the second phase of the Machakos development program, which has estimated costs of DM50.8 million. In Zimbabwe the firm also received the contract for preparing a study regarding the Grottvlei irrigation project.

Gitec Consult GmbH, Duesseldorf, has been given consulting assignments in Ethiopia relative to phase four of the rural water supply project in the province of Jimma. Kirchner & Wolf Consult GmbH, Hildesheim, won a subcontract in Ethiopia for mapping the Finchaa Chomen Reservoir.

In the North African region the Agiplan Corp. for Industrial Planning, Muelheim/Ruhr, assumed consulting responsibilities in Libya for construction of a water desalination facility. In Tunisia, the two firms of Hydroplan Engineering Co. mbH, Herdecke/Ruhr, and IP Institute for Project Planning GmbH, Stuttgart, are involved in the Bou Heurtma irrigation project. Kittelberger Engineering Bureau GmbH, of Ludwigshafen, received a contract in Algeria for completing a study on water supply to the capital city of Algiers. The firm of WPW Consulting Engineers Wundrack, Peter, Wunderlich, Saarbruecken, was entrusted with consulting assignments in Morocco in regard to water supply for the cities of Beni Mellal and Khenitra. Bartels Consult GmbH, Berlin, received a subcontract in Morocco concerning water treatment and purification.

In East Africa, Lahmeyer International GmbH, Frankfurt/Main, was awarded responsibility in Somalia for the preparation of a hydroeconomy plan for the Shebeli River in the southern part of the country. Schroeder Planning GmbH & Co. KG, Darmstadt, won a contract in Uganda for consulting on water supply to the town of Shuku. The firm of Dr Ing Walter GmbH & Co. KG International-DIWI, Essen, is doing consulting work in Uganda for the state-owned National Water and Sewerage Corp., which is responsible for water supply and waste water removal. Dorsch Consult Engineering Co. mbH, of Munich, has become active in Zimbabwe as a consortium partner in the Masvingo small-scale irrigation project.

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CSO: 3420/57

INTER-AFRICAN AFFAIRS

EUROPEAN FISCAL, TECHNICAL AID FOR MILK PRODUCTION, PROCESSING

Frankfurt/Main FRANKFURTER ZEITUNG/BLICK DURCH DIE WIRTSCHAFT in German
19 Aug 86 p 2

[Article by W. An., Frankfurt: "More Milk for Africa; Investments for Processed Products as Well"]

[Text] Since the previous report appearing in the issue of 30 December 1985, additional new dairy projects have been started in all parts of Africa, projects that are important in making supplies available to the native population. The Swedish company Alfa-Laval AB, Stockholm, which is represented in the Federal Republic of Germany by a number of subsidiary production enterprises, calls itself the world's leading company in the field of dairy equipment in its 1985 annual report. African subsidiaries are operating in Nairobi (Kenya), Casablanca (Morocco), Harare (Zimbabwe), and Johannesburg (RSA).

The French company Societe des Investissements Laitiers Outre-Mer, a joint operation consisting of 40 cooperatives, recently signed two delivery contracts in Egypt for over 15 million French francs each. The first contract involves the installation of a production line with an annual capacity of 500 tons for the production of butter. The project's sponsor is the Egyptian firm Shahin in the new town of Sadat City. The second delivery contract was concluded with the University of Alexandria for a test facility for the production of dairy products.

The European Investment Bank (EIB), Luxembourg, granted Tunisia a credit in the amount of 2.5 million ECU's (1 ECU = about DM2.20) for construction of a dairy near Bou Salem, 130 kilometers west of Tunis. Total investment expenditure is estimated at 16.2 million ECU's for this project. The dairy, which will have a processing capacity of 80,000 liters of milk daily, is being built by the firm Laiterie du Nord-Ouest (Laino), Tunis. It is expected to be ready for operation by the end of 1988.

In Algeria the Italian firm Intercoop recently landed a contract valued at 95 billion lire for the construction of two dairies in Ain Defla and Blida, each of which will be capable of processing 175,000 liters of milk daily. The project sponsor is the state Office Regional du Lait et des Produits Laitiers du Centre (Orlac). Financing has been backed by the Algerian Banque de

l'Agriculture et du Development Rural (BADR). Intercoop is also responsible for training specialized personnel in Italy and for providing technical assistance for a year following the start of operations.

In the West African region, the announcement was made in the Ivory Coast in the spring of 1986 that the Societe Nandjelait will build a dairy in the Yopougon industrial zone. The large French trade organization SCOA, Paris, has a 34 percent participation in the Societe Nandjelait's capital of 60 million CFA [African Financial Community] francs (100 CFA francs = about L40.65). The dairy is supposed to be fully automated and will have a cost of about 2 billion CFA francs. The local Abinader Group and Sodima Yoplait International are the main participants in the financing.

The Banque Ouest Africaine de Developpement (BOAD), with headquarters in Lome (Togo), recently granted the Societe des Industries Alimentaires et des Produits Laitiers en Cote d'Ivoire (Sialim), Abidjan, a credit in the amount of 1.8 billion CFA francs for financing facilities intended for the production of sweetened and unsweetened condensed milk and for the production of high temperature, ultra-uperized milk. Sialim will have an annual condensed milk capacity of about 16,500 tons following start-up of the new facilities, in which imported powdered milk will be processed.

In early June 1986, the executive board of the World Bank Group approved financial participation by the International Finance Corp. (IFC) in a dairy project in Cameroon, which is being carried out by the Societe Industrielle Laitiere du Cameroun.

In East Africa, the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal & Fisheries Resources, Addis Ababa, held international competitive bidding in Ethiopia in the spring of 1986 for technical consulting in a dairy industry project. In the case of this project, financing is being done by the African Development Fund.

The Dairy Marketing Board (DMB) in Zimbabwe is currently conducting a development program at the cost of 7 million Zimbabwe dollars (1 Zimbabwe dollar = about Dm1.40) for increasing the country's milk production to about 200 million liters annually. This program also includes construction of a new dairy in Bulawayo and establishment of two milk storage depots in Matabeleland.

CSO: 3420/57

CHAD

MINISTER APPEALS FOR AID TO COMBAT LOCUST INVASION

AB071220 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 6 Oct 86

[Appeal by Yoyama Baniara, minister of agriculture and rural development, to friendly countries and international organizations for assistance to the Chadian Government following the invasion of the country by locusts; place and date not given--recorded]

[Text] This is a new appeal for international solidarity. The government of the Republic of Chad, which is anxious to ensure the well-being of its people, has not spared any efforts so far to develop the production sectors of our country, particularly the agricultural and animal husbandry sectors. The hard years of drought and the annexation war imposed on us by the terrorist regime in Tripoli have made the living conditions of our hardworking rural masses particularly difficult.

When the drought worsened a few years ago, the international community spontaneously granted us food aid which enabled the government to face this situation. The rainfall which we recorded during the 1985-86 agricultural season aroused new hopes for (?better crops) among the masses of our brave farmers who wanted to prove that we can produce ourselves what we need.

We consider the 1986-87 season as the season for strengthening the progress in our action against hunger and misery. Unfortunately, our hopes might be frustrated and the action seriously jeopardized by the invasion of locusts, rats, and other beasts that attack crops. Confronted with this [words indistinct] which (?thwarts) its efforts and the efforts of the people, the government appealed for international aid. The international community was responsive indeed.

But the expected results have not been achieved up until now. The situation which we are experiencing now requires a more important intervention. As we were trying to demonstrate the scope of the plague--the public is surprised at the invasion of Ndjamena, the capital--by locusts and (?rats), our major concern was to stop the invasion in the Sahel zone in order to preserve the harvest in the Sudano-Sahel zone. But the delay in receiving the aid made it impossible to stop the invasion at that limit.

The south, which has always been spared, has now been affected. As a result, we estimate the losses at more than 50 percent. The grain harvest for the 1986-87 season is thus jeopardized. Unfortunately, Chad will once again find itself in a situation of being a food aid recipient. The situation is very critical because grain-eating birds have already been reported in the south and center of the country on the eve of the harvest.

In the face of this catastrophic situation, and in an attempt to save what can still be saved and prevent future plagues, the Chadian Government urgently appeals once again to friendly countries, international, nongovernmental, and humanitarian organizations as well as all men of good will for assistance [words indistinct] to its policy of food self-sufficiency and struggle against famine, hunger, and misery.

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CSO: 3400/150

GUINEA

CAUTIOUS ECONOMIC LIBERALIZATION UNDER NEW 3-YEAR PLAN

Frankfurt/Main FRANKFURTER ZEITUNG/BLICK DURCH DIE WIRTSCHAFT in German 14 Aug 86 p 2

[Unattributed Article: "Guinea Cautiously Liberalizes; Hopes for International Support for New 3-Year Plan"]

[Text] According to reports from Western experts, the 3-year economic development plan just enacted by the government of Guinea is likely to receive support, especially from the international organizations. Nor, in view of the government's liberalization measures, does it rule out the possibility of stepped-up private investment. The plan particularly favors the development of traditional agriculture and of the infrastructure, the expansion of the agricultural sector for farm export products, of energy and minerals resources and of industry. In this context, the government has established new investment regulations for a dozen economic sectors which are regarded as "high priority." These regulations guarantee all foreign investors their right of ownership as well as the right to transfer profits out of the country. Moreover, foreign and domestic investors are to have access to public contracts without discrimination.

Over the last two years, Guinea has greatly intensified trade with France, the United States, Belgium, China, Italy, Morocco, the other countries of the EC and the East Bloc states. France, the former colonial power, plays a special role here. Not only is it Guinea's most important trading partner, but it also holds first place in terms of economic cooperation. The major objective of the Guinean government is to revitalize the country's economy, which had been completely disrupted as a result of the decades-long mismanagement of the Sekou Toure regime (who was toppled in the spring of 1984), by means of wide-ranging reforms.

The first signs of an improvement in the agricultural sector, which represents 80 percent of the total number of jobs in the country, has been registered since the beginning of the year. The lifting of the "harvest taxes" and of the former restrictions on the rural populations's freedom of movement were the primary factors of decisive importance in improving the situation. According to data from the Ministry for Agriculture, numerous agricultural products continue to be smuggled into neighboring countries and sold there for

hard currency. In order to encourage sales in Guinea, grower prices paid to the farmers are now to be raised significantly.

As far as industry and mining in particular are concerned, which account for 90 percent of export sales, the mining of bauxite is to be increased and the gold and diamond operations of the state-owned Aredor company are to be expanded. Private gold and diamond prospectors may no longer operate in the mining areas which have been declared "strategic development sectors." Furthermore, the joint iron-ore project with Liberia, "Mifergui-Nimba," is to be accelerated. The goal of this project is an annual extraction of 10 million tons. Union Texas, an oil company controlled by Mobil, has begun off-coast oil exploration in Guinea. In the meantime, a French company is modernizing a factory for fruit and vegetable canning in Mamou to the north of Conakry, while the World Bank is financing several plants for the processing of aromatic plants and the manufacture of quinine. American investors are modernizing a bottling plant. The abundance of fish off of the coastline of the country has also enticed foreign investors. For example, the American firm Universal Marine Shark Products has signed an agreement for the catching and processing of seafood products. Moreover, within the framework of the government's liberalization measures, a Lebanese company has received a contract to construct subsidized housing and a governmental administration building, while an Italian company is building a hospital and a Moroccan company an hotel. At the present time, two further projects are beginning carried out for the modernization of the Conakry-Mamou and Gueckedou-Seredou highways, both of which involve foreign participation.

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CSO: 3420/56

MOZAMBIQUE

FOREIGN MINISTER ADDRESSES UNGA ON APARTHEID

MB012110 Maputo in English to southern Africa 1100 GMT 1 Oct 86

["Excerpts" of speech by Mozambican Minister of Foreign Affairs Joaquim Chissano at the 41st session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York on 25 September 1986--recorded]

[Text] The international community has arrived at a consensus that the apartheid system has no mechanism of self-correction and that it cannot be reformed. May I, for that matter, quote President Samora Moises Machel when he said, I quote: There is no democratic apartheid. There is no humane apartheid. There is no peaceful apartheid. Apartheid is the negation of justice, equality, social [words indistinct]. It is an institutionalized expression of the violation of every human right. Apartheid, like colonialism, cannot be reformed. Apartheid, like colonialism, must be eradicated; end of quotation.

The so-called reforms heralded by the apartheid regime under the slogan, adapt or die, are nothing but attempts to deceive the people of South Africa and the international public opinion as well as to appease the popular revolt and thus safeguard and perpetuate the supremacy of the white minority. The Pretoria regime has already shown itself to be insensitive to persuasion through dialogue conducive to a speedy end of the system. As we stated at the Paris international conference on sanctions against racist South Africa, certain Western countries that continue to refuse to contemplate effective new measures against South Africa should tell us what to do when they say no to violence, no to sanctions, no to pressures, and South Africa tells, us no to dialogue. These countries should show us the road to take in view of the failure of the pseudo-reformist movement undertaken by the racist regime itself.

The argument that sanctions would hurt the black South Africans the most and affect the economy of the countries of the region are not consistent. In South Africa nothing can be worse than death itself. Death and murder are daily occurrences. Even corpses are riddled with bullets on their way to the cemetery. Mourners are also shot at and end up being corpses themselves

to be buried. This is one of the reasons why the South African people call for sanctions as a means to shorten their suffering.

Addressing the issue of effects of the sanctions on the neighboring countries his excellency the president of the People's Republic of Mozambique, Samora Moises Machel, told the summit of the Nonaligned Movement in Harare, and I quote: In reality South Africa has applied undeclared sanctions since 1975 against the countries of the region apart from the destruction caused by aggression; end of quotation. While South Africa considers the application of sanctions against it as immoral, it has, nonetheless, applied sanctions against its neighboring states. The apartheid regime has systematically destroyed communications and transportation systems that assured the economic life of the countries of the region. By sabotaging, by way of armed bandits under its command, the access to the Mozambican ports of Maputo, Beira, and Nacala, and the Angolan port of Lobito, South Africa is impeding the economic emancipation of the peoples of southern Africa that at present is being undertaken by the Southern African Development Coordinating Conference, SADCC. In this context the losses caused by the apartheid regime until 1985 to the member states of the Southern African Development Coordinating Conference are estimated at \$10 billion.

Mr President, apartheid is a crime against humankind and, therefore, must be eradicated. The elimination of apartheid demands that the whole international community take effective, concerted and forceful measures. I reiterate here the appeal we made on various occasions to all member states for them to denounce, condemn, and fight by all means the South African (?bellicose) policy, to reiterate the moral, diplomatic and material support to the ANC and other democratic forces in South Africa that are struggling for a just and democratic society, to fight the armed banditry and state terrorism that devastate our region, and demand that South Africa should henceforth terminate its support of terrorism, to provide concrete, multifarious assistance to the frontline states, particularly Angola and Mozambique, so that these two Frontline states may strengthen their defense capability and safeguard their independence, national sovereignty and territorial integrity and ensure a good functioning of the ports and railways system vital to the economy of the hinterland states.

The 22d summit of the heads of state and government of the Organization of Africa Unity held in Addis Ababa in July and the eighth summit of the non-aligned countries held in Harare in September 1986 adopted two special declarations on southern Africa. In them the heads of state and government reiterated their commitment and determination to struggle for the establishment of freedom and justice in South Africa and in Namibia through the total dismantling of apartheid. They expressed the support of the two organizations for the demands by the Commonwealth countries contained in the Commonwealth agreement on Southern Africa. The heads of state and government of the two organizations adopted concrete measures to be implemented inter alia the following: 1) to pressure the South African regime to change its policies; 2) to support the people of South Africa and Namibia in their struggle against

apartheid, and the frontline and other states in southern Africa in their endeavor to decrease their dependence on racist South Africa.

We appeal to the member states of the United Nations to support and fully implement these declarations.

/6662

CSO: 3400/103

MOZAMBIQUE

FINANCIAL AID AGREEMENTS WITH SWEDEN SIGNED

Includes Emergency Aid

MB011402 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 1 Oct 86

[Text] Sweden is to give Mozambique 15 million krona in emergency aid. This is worth 75 million meticals, which will be used to buy medicine. This news was disclosed during the Mozambique-Sweden talks this morning. Other issues discussed at the meeting were bilateral cooperation and the situation in southern Africa.

The delegations were headed by Carl Tham, the head of Sweden's International Development Agency, and Minister of Cooperation Jacinto Veloso.

Accords are also expected to be signed today cancelling Mozambique's debt to Sweden, and providing for an aid project dealing with navigation.

Rehabilitation of Navigation Aids

MB011941 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1700 GMT 1 Oct 86

[Text] Sweden has allocated to Mozambique a sum equivalent to \$19 million [U.S.], about 750 million meticals, to relieve Mozambique's foreign debt obligations. The accord was signed by Bo Kalfhors, Swedish ambassador accredited to Mozambique, and Mozambican Minister of Cooperation Jacinto Veloso in the presence of Carl Tham, director general of the Swedish International Development Authority SIDA.

Another accord was signed this afternoon providing for the rehabilitation of navigation aids to the regional ports of Maputo, Beira, and Nacala. The project, to be financed by the Swedish Government, is estimated at \$8 million [U.S.] the equivalent of 300,000 contos. The accord was signed by the Swedish ambassador to Mozambique and by Mozambican deputy Minister of Transport and Communications Isaias Muhate.

Earlier the SIDA delegation held talks with Minister of Industry and Energy Antonio Branco, during which bilateral cooperation was reviewed. It will be recalled that this morning the SIDA delegation announced an emergency aid deal in krona worth 75,000 contos to buy medicine to Mozambique.

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CSO: 3400/103

MOZAMBIQUE

COMMENTARY SAYS MALAWI ONLY RSA'S 'SIMPLE AGENT'

MB252027 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1800 GMT 25 Sep 86

[Station commentary]

[Text] The 25th of September is a day that has left an indelible mark in the history of Mozambique. The day marks the beginning of the armed struggle against Portuguese colonialism. That struggle was for national liberation, democracy, peace, justice, and equality. However, today, as thousands of Mozambicans celebrate this day, peace is still far from being achieved in Mozambique. Even so, as President Samora Machel said in Tete province recently, the Mozambican people are determined to continue searching for peace.

It is in this context that the President's recent visit to Tete should be viewed. Mozambique's enemies have found Malawi fertile ground to use in the destabilization of the Mozambican people's state. President Samora could not blame ordinary Malawians for this situation [words indistinct] a group of Malawian ministers [word indistinct] police and security officials who have sold their souls to the South Africans and other foreign militarists. The president said that although South Africa's [word indistinct] forces were operating from Malawi, the Malawian people do not want to go to war with Mozambique. He said the use of Malawi was an attempt to divert the direction of Mozambique's fire power.

What President Samora meant was that the Mozambican armed forces, who are being honored today, will not be fooled into forgetting who the real enemy is. Just as in the past, when the Mozambican people fought against and defeated Portuguese colonialism, the enemy today may also be correctly identified. Malawi is only a simple agent ruled by South Africa and its imperialist allies who are the real enemies of the Mozambican's people's state.

/9604

CSO: 3400/75

MOZAMBIQUE

BRIEFS

SOFALA PROVINCE TRANSPORT DOWN--Sofala Province has experienced a reduction of about 60 percent in its maritime, river, and lake transport over the last 10 years. This was revealed in a ceremony marking the end of the navy week in Beira on world Navy Day last week. A message which was read on the occasion states that the lack of spare parts is the main problem. This transport network is responsible for carrying supplies and strategic goods for export, as well as international goods in the context of SADCC. It also carries passengers over seas, rivers, and lakes. [Text] [Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0400 GMT 1 Oct 86 MB] /6662

FRELIMO'S GRUVETA ADDRESSES MALAWI CONVENTION--Major General Bonifacio Gruveta, member of the Frelimo Party Central Committee, last Monday in Lilongwe appealed to the Malawian people to be vigilant so as to neutralize those who seek to undermine Malawi's relations with Mozambique. Speaking to the delegates at the Malawi Congress Party [MCP] convention chaired by President Kamuzu Banda, Maj Gen Gruveta said he was instructed by President Samora Machel to tell the delegates that Mozambicans and Malawians are sister peoples, and that the borders separating them were drawn by colonialists. Bonifacio Gruveta heads a Frelimo Party delegation attending the proceedings of the MCP convention. Speaking in Chichewa, one of Malawi's principal languages--to the applause of the audience--Maj Gen Gruveta said that President Banda expressed the desire for increased cooperation between the two peoples, during a meeting with the Malawian head of state. [Text] [Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0400 GMT 1 Oct 86 MB] /6662

ELECTION PROCESS EXTENDED IN ZAMBEZIA--Quelimane (Mozambique), 29 Sep (AIM/PANA)--The national elections office has decided to extend the period for voting in the first phase of general elections in the central Mozambican Province of Zambezia for a further month. The election of people's assemblies at the two lowest levels of the government structure should have been completed by 15 Sept - 15 Oct. For Zambezia the period has now been extended. Zambezia is badly hit by South African sponsored banditry, and communications inside the province are very difficult. Furthermore, the documentation necessary for the work of the brigade who supervises the election arrived late. [Words indistinct] 47 assemblies had been elected in eight out of the province's 17 districts. The process continued in eight districts: (?Pebane), Ile, Namcurra, Gurue, Inhassunge, Nicoadala, Milange and Mocuba. But up until now there is still no information, from other parts of the province where

electoral brigades are at work. Some districts can only be reached by air, and inside the districts it may be necessary to travel long distances on foot. Without radio communications, the brigades will find it virtually impossible to report back to the provincial capital Quelimane. Of those Zambezia assemblies whose composition is already known [words indistinct] the deputies are 80 per cent peasant in origin, and have an average age of 35. [Text] [Dakar PANA in English 1330 GMT 29 Sep 86 MB] /6662

MINISTER CONCLUDES SEYCHELLES VISIT—Mozambique Minister of Security Sergio Vieira said in Seychelles yesterday that South African destabilization through the armed bandits has cost Mozambique more than \$4 billion dollars [U.S.] and more than 100,000 dead since independence. Sergio Vieira, speaking shortly before the end of his 2-day visit to the Seychelles, said that South African troops have been building clandestine airstrips in Mozambican territory as well as rendering all types of support to the armed bandits. Minister of Security Sergio Vieira also stated that the armed bandits—under Pretoria's orders—have been destroying railroads, roads, hospitals, and other infrastructures resulting in losses estimated at \$4 billion dollars, or double Mozambique's total foreign debt. [Text] [Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1700 GMT 27 Sep 86 MB] /6662

CSO: 3400/75

NAMIBIA

BRIEFS

STUDY OF SANCTIONS EFFECT--In Namibia the Transitional Government has appointed a committee to advise on the effects of U.S. sanctions against South Africa. The minister of finance, Dirk Mudge, says in a statement any consequences of sanctions on South Africa will be felt in Namibia, which receives about 500 million rand annually in direct aid from Pretoria. Describing the imposition of trade boycotts as senseless, Mr Mudge said the Namibian Transitional Government will carry through its policy of abolishing racial discrimination in the territory. Meanwhile, the leader of the conservative Namibian Rehoboth Free Democratic Party, Hans Diergaardt, says he is trying to arrange a meeting with SWAPO leader Sam Nujoma. [Text] [Umtata Capital Radio in English 0900 GMT 6 Oct 86] /9599

AUTONOMOUS PUBLICATIONS BOARD--Windhoek, 6 Oct (SAPA)--SWA/Namibia should establish its own directorate and appeal board for publications, using as guideline the South African Publications Act, the Van Dyk Commission reported. The security forces of SWA/Namibia said in argument before the commission that the printed word had an important function in SWAPO's "propaganda onslaught" against the territory and delays were often experienced in obtaining decisions on certain publications through the present channels. The commission said there should be no problems encountered with the existing structure, but an alternative solution would be the creation of SWA/Namibian publications control body, possibly stationed in Windhoek. [Text] [Johannesburg SAPA in English 1848 GMT 6 Oct 86] /9599

INQUEST WITNESS PROTECTION--Windhoek, 6 Oct (SAPA)--The Judicial Inquests Act as applied in SWA/Namibia appeared inadequate in that it did not protect inquest witnesses from possible reprisal in the war zone, the Van Dyk Commission reported in Windhoek. Representatives of the SWA/Namibian security forces had argued before the commission that certain newspapers were publishing proceedings of inquest courts in detail and, particularly, identifying witnesses. These details often come to the attention of terrorists and their collaborators with the result that such witnesses are exposed to intimidation and are forced to live in fear of reprisals," the report stated. Another problem raised by the security forces was that SWAPO insurgents used as propaganda published information of inquests, such as the number of deaths and damage to property in incidents in the operational area. The police often had to travel long distances under hazardous conditions in northern SWA/Namibia, only to find on their arrival at their destinations that

material witnesses were not available, or refused to provide even elementary information, such as the names of the deceased. The security forces proposed that inquest documents, except for the frontispieces, should not be made public. The Van Dyk Commission said it could not contest, on the available evidence, that there was an inherent threat to civilian witnesses in judicial inquests into war-related deaths. "Against that should be weighed the interests of the community, particularly the right of the public to know how unnatural deaths were caused," the commission said. [Text] [Johannesburg SAPA in English 1856 GMT 6 Oct 86] /9599

URANIUM MINE CLOSING--The biggest open sky uranium mine in the world, the Rossing mine, might be closed as a result of economic sanctions imposed by the United States on South Africa, according to well-informed sources in Windhoek. We recall that last week the American Congress approved a package of economic sanctions for implementation against the Pretoria regime, including an embargo on South African uranium, with the aim of forcing South Africa to dismantle its apartheid policy. The mine's management declined comment on the issue, despite rumors circulating in financial and industrial circles mentioning the possibility that the mine might close down. [Text] [Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 7 Oct 86] /9599

CS0: 3400/150

NIGERIA

LABOR CONGRESS CALLS FOR SOCIALIST GOVERNMENT

Enugu DAILY STAR in English 28 Aug 86 p 11

[Text] Nigeria Labour Congress document calling for socialist government in Nigeria, as part of the on-going political debate, will be launched in Enugu today.

The document was earlier released at a public ceremony at National Arts Theatre, Lagos and now being launched in state capitals.

It was titled: "TOWARDS A VIABLE AND GENUINELY DEMOCRATIC POLITICAL FUTURE".

In launching the document at Lagos, the NLC president, Alhaji Ali Chiroma said the congress recommended it to the Political Bureau and the people of Nigeria as its contribution to the on-going national debate on the political future of Nigeria.

The president stated:

The numerous problems facing Nigerian workers, rural and urban poor, today, have their origin in politics. Therefore problems of unemployment, insecurity of employment, retrenchment, factory closures, high cost of living, inability to control rent, exorbitant medical care, taxation, excessive school fees and all forms of deprivations are products of political decisions.

Thus, it becomes clear that problems of Nigerian workers have become multi-dimensional and as such cannot be resolved within the framework of industrial relations practice. This is perhaps why the on-going debate on the political future of Nigeria is of immense importance to Nigerian workers and their trade unions.

Our contribution to the debate for very obvious reasons conforms to the perceptions and traditions of the working class movement all over the world. We have followed with keen interest the trend of the debate so far and noted the following positions:

That the problem of Nigeria is not with the system, but its operators. This argument appears illogical and seems not to be justified by the political happenings since our independence. Going by that argument, it

is unfortunate that virtually all the operators of the first civilian republic, "first military republic" second civilian republic were not good enough to provide good government. It is often forgotten that all the changes in government, since 1960 were not changes in structures and system of governments.

Realities

That being the case, the prevailing political and economic system adopted since independence is responsible for producing bad operators and as such bad government.

Some have argued that the change of system which implied change from capitalism to socialism would usher in a system alien to our tradition and culture, in fact they propagate that socialism is anti-religion and inhibits individual initiative and is based on the prevention of the right to own property.

The arguments are out-dated and remind one of the picture of socialism painted by our erstwhile colonial masters. Our socialist options would be rooted in Nigerian realities, and Nigerian environment and will be operated by Nigerians without dictation from any foreign power.

Other contributors plagued by the bourgeois north-south contest for power and exclusive zones of influence have raked up the idea of rotational presidency as basis for national stability. This notion, to say the least, portrays the national bourgeoisie as being overwhelmed by its own failures and contradictions it cannot resolve.

The notion of rotational presidency will institutionalise divisive tendencies, personal ambitions and promote sectional and tribal loyalties. In the final analysis it is a mere cake-sharing arrangement which the ruling class has always stood for. In the main, it will work against national unity.

To sum up, labour in politics would broaden genuine political participation; it would halt the use of tribalism, statism and religious differences as instruments for manipulating the people; it would be mass oriented and above all, forge a truly united nation behind a definite ideological posture-- which shall be socialism. For the realisation of this objective, workers and other democratic

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CSO: 3400/39

NIGERIA

REPORTAGE, COMMENT ON LABOR CONGRESS DISPUTE

Four Unions Walk Out

Lagos DAILY TIMES in English 10 Sep 86 p 13

[Text]

THE Central Working Committee (CWC) meeting of the Nigeria Labour Congress (NLC) ended abruptly yesterday as representatives of four industrial unions walked out of the meeting.

The walk-out was staged by representatives of the Non-academic Staff Union of Universities (NASU), National Union of Posts and Telecommunication Employees (NUPTE), the Nigerian Ports Authority Workers Union (NPAWU) and the Dock-workers Union of Nigeria (DUN).

This followed the decision of the CWC not to allow both factions of the National Union of Petro-

leum and Natural Gas Workers (NUPENG) a representation at the meeting.

Earlier, about 50 workers of the oil industry representing over 20 companies besieged the NLC Secretariat, demanding the withdrawal of the general secretary of the Minority faction of (NUPENG) Mr. Alphonus Okewese and his group from the meeting.

A spokesman for the workers, Mr. Coleman Obasi of the Nigeria National Petroleum Company (NNPC) said the workers could no longer tolerate "an imposed leadership."

Group Accuses NLC

Lagos DAILY TIMES in English 11 Sep 86 p 1, 2

[Text]

A GROUP of trade unionists within the Nigeria Labour Congress said in Lagos yesterday that Nigerian workers were not organised enough to be involved in the running of the country in 1990.

Addressing a press conference yesterday, the leader of a group known as "Democrats within the NLC, Mr. Godwin Uluocha, said that the fact that Decree 22 of 1978 centralised industrial unions, did not mean that workers were united.

The group, which comprised of 10 unions, also accused the NLC leadership for not rendering yearly accounts to the registrar of trade unions.

The democrats, however, denied that they are a splinter group in the NLC.

"We will not split the NLC, we are only trying to establish our identity" said Uluocha.

Mr. Uluocha said the group opposed the candidature of Alhaji Hassan Sunmonu for the presidency of the Organisation of Trade Union Unity (OATUU)

because Sunmonu was not a member of the NLC National Executive Council (NEC) at the time he was nominated.

Contacted, the acting general secretary of the NLC, Dr. Lasini Osunde, described the allegation on Sunmonu's candidacy as "grossly incorrect."

He said that a nominee for OATUU or any other international body only needed to be one who must be associated with the trade union movement.

"The fact is that the choice must represent the views of the workers of his country. He must also be a seasoned trade unionists", Osunde said.

On the accounts of the NLC, Dr. Osunde presented documents to prove that the NLC had rendered its accounts from 1979 to 1985.

"The registrar of trade unions has not raised queries on the accounts rendered, and we contest this anywhere."

Two days ago, the group known as "democrats", walked out of the NLC Central Working Committee (CWC) meeting, when it decided that the two factions of National Union of Petroleum and Natural Gas Workers (NUPENG) should leave the meeting.

Daily Times Comment

Lagos DAILY TIMES in English 17 Sep 86 p 8

[Text]

WHATEVER may be at the centre of it all, the crisis now rocking the NLC is ill-timed.

The reason for this assertion is obvious. At a time all efforts are being made to effect reconciliation of the different factions of the continental labour union OATUU, any bickering at the home labour front, does not give Nigeria any cause for cheer.

Nigeria's leadership of Africa, even if it be ascribed, imposes on her great responsibilities not only in the political aspirations of the continent but also in economic and social fields. In this light, therefore, our country is expected to play a crucial role in the resolution of the OATUU crisis. This role cannot be meaningfully played if the NLC gives out itself as a disorganised body.

The schism becomes the more unreasonable when it is realised that our country has already put up a candidate for the OATUU presidency. The present bickering at which darts are thrown at him will only help to give the impression that he lacks a solid home base for the enviable OATUU high office. We therefore expect that this is the time the spirit of patriotism should come into full play. It is the time to mobilise all the forces available to us and throw our collective weight behind our own candidate.

That the NLC schism is capable of thwarting our achievement of a major continental goal is not the only reason why such a development is lamentable. The crisis has a potential for breaking the NLC itself. Such a prospect does not present any comfortable story for obvious reasons. The warring factions cannot easily forget that the Nigerian labour move-

ment has come a long way. The creation of one central labour organisation in 1978 was to lay to rest the ideological differences that had polarised labour unionism in this country.

Prior to the creation of the NLC some eight years ago, the flanks of Nigerian labour unionism were torn apart at will by pernicious influences of the West-East ideological rivalry. That this country's labour movement was able to disengage from the puppetry role for external manipulators was an enviable achievement. It will, therefore, be a serious indictment of the NLC leaders if they allow their rabid tussle for power to nullify the spirit of the creation of the NLC.

Beyond this, the NLC leaders should not lose sight of the fact that their primary responsibility is to fight for the improvement of the welfare of workers, to use the weapon of labour unionism to bring about increased productivity, and to ensure that the wheel of industry is in constant motion.

Umoh on 'Power tussle'

Lagos BUSINESS TIMES in English 22 Sep 86 p 18

[Article by Umoh James Umoh]

[Text]

THE power tussle within the Organisation of African Trade Union Unity (OATUU) has taken a new and dramatic twist. The general secretary of the OATUU, Mr. Dennis Akumu, has decided not to seek re-election during the forthcoming conference of the OATUU slated for Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in October this year.

Reliable sources very close to the OATUU secretariat in Accra, Ghana told the Business Times in Lagos last week that Mr. Akumu has already informed the Kenyan Government of his decision not to continue as general secretary of the OATUU after the October, 1986 conference of this African continental labour movement in Addis Ababa.

Mr. Akumu has been the general secretary of the OATUU since the inception of the organisation in 1973. Before his appointment as the general secretary of the OATUU, Mr. Akumu was the general secretary of the Central Organisation of Trade Union (COTU) of Kenya.

It is not known whether Mr. Akumu decided voluntarily to withdraw from the OATUU power struggle or was under pressure to do so.

Reports from the OATUU secretariat in Accra disclosed that Mr. Akumu hinted his colleagues in the secretariat about many meetings he held with officials of the Kenyan

labour movement Central Organisation of Trade Unions (COTU) the Organisation which had sponsored him to the Organisation of African Trade Union Unity (OATUU) during the inaugural conference of the OATUU in 1973.

According to the Accra reports, Mr. Akumu also met with officials of the Kenyan Ministry of Labour. At the end of these meetings, Mr. Akumu informed his OATUU secretariat colleagues that he would not contest as the general secretary of the OATUU during the forthcoming Addis Ababa conference.

Akumu was at the centre of the controversy during the Lagos conference of the OATUU hosted in January, 1985 by the Nigeria Labour Congress. The Lagos conference ended in a deadlock and no elections were held because of the controversy over lack of proper accountability by the OATUU leaders and because of a dispute over the voting rights of OATUU affiliates who had not paid their trade union dues up-to-date.

A caretaker committee was set up by the controversial Lagos conference to reconcile the OATUU accounts and then summon another conference within one year.

The caretaker committee was headed by the president of the Nigeria Labour Congress, Alhaji Ali Chiroma.

This committee did not receive sufficient co-operation from the OATUU secretariat in Accra. Another conference of the OATUU held in

Accra. Another conference February, 1986, split the organisation into two factions.

The former president of the Nigeria Labour Congress, Mr. Hassan Sunmonu is now leading the majority faction of OATUU with 29 affiliates. The other faction of OATUU is led by a Libyan Union leader, Mr. El Nefishy as president and Mr. Dennis Akumu as general secretary.

The decision of Mr. Akumu not to contest the post of general secretary of OATUU during the forthcoming October conference must have been based on the desire of his country Kenya, to preserve the unity of OATUU.

Since Mr. Akumu has been at the central of the OATUU controversy in Lagos in February, 1985 and in Accra conference in January, 1986, it seems

the Kenyan government was not very pleased for their son to be responsible for the crisis in the OATUU.

It is possible that during the many meetings Mr. Akumu held with his country's labour movement - the COTU, and the Kenyan Ministry of Labour, he must have been advised to withdraw from the OATUU - so as to restore unity and sanity in that organisation.

The withdrawal of Mr. Akumu from the power tussle in OATUU is bound to affect the aspirations of the Nigeria Labour Congress to sponsor a candidate to contest OATUU presidency.

When a Nigerian, Mr. Hassan Sunmonu was elected in Accra in

February, 1986 to head a majority faction of OATUU made up of 29 affiliates it was only because most of them were opposed to Mr. Dennis Akumu continuing as general secretary of OATUU and Mr. El Nefishy of Libya continuing as the president.

Now that Mr. Akumu is out of the OATUU race for power, the affiliates will now settle down to make their real choice of new leaders to run the affairs of the OATUU.

If the NLC still insists on fielding a candidate to contest OATUU presidency or post of general secretary, such a candidate will no doubt face stiff opposition.

The OATUU held another conference in Accra in February, this year. Again the passion for OATUU power was so intense that the NLC delegation at the Accra conference headed a faction.

If that happens, will the NLC not create another faction of OATUU? Even if the NLC is united at home and presents one candidate, it will be a trade union miracle for that candidate to win OATUU presidency. But now the NLC which caused the OATUU to split into two factions at the Accra conference has now split into two factions.

All is not well with the Nigerian Labour Congress. One faction of NLC favours the candidature of Mr. Hassan Sunmonu, the former president of the congress while another faction of the NLC has nominated the general secretary of the Non-Academic Staff

Union (NASU) Mr Emmanuel Ijeh to contest OATUU presidency. This development is a normal trade union struggle for power.

It accords with the practice of trade union democracy and

fundamental human rights of affiliates of the NLC to have a say over anybody seeking to speak in the name of the congress within and outside Nigeria.

The Nigerian Government should remain absolutely and manifestly neutral in the current power struggle in the NLC over OATUU offices. Nigerian workers have not gained and have nothing to gain from the OATUU.

Nobody should give the impression that Nigeria as a nation is fighting other African countries

for any OATUU post. If the NLC fails to reconcile the two factions (that is Mr. Sunmonu and Mr. Ijeh) then they should both go to Addis Ababa and fight it out. After all the NLC itself has a way of dealing with factions.

Mr. Richard Jzegbu is the legitimate president of National Union of Petroleum and Natural Gas Workers (NUPENG) with Mr. Alphonsus Okwese as the general secretary; the NLC allowed the faction of NUPENG led by Mr. Samuel Dada and Frank Kokori to attend the recent Central Working Committee of the Congress in Lagos. That happened when Mr. Uzegbu and Mr. Okwese had not yet arrived.

But when Mr. Okwese arrived, someone drew attention to the presence of two factions of NUPENG. NLC leaders expelled both factions from the CWC meeting.

THE TRIUMPH Editorial

Kano THE TRIUMPH in English 17 Sep 86 p 1

[Editorial: "Scuffle at the NLC"]

[Text]

FRIGHTENING developments are unfolding in the country's labour movement. That the schism has degenerated to its current stage should not only be seen as a sad commentary on the leaders of the country's 42 industrial trade unions but one deserving the prompt attention of the Federal Government. News reports have it that security forces have now waded into the dispute as allegations of foreign interference had reached a crescendo, with the emergence of a dissident group, self-styled as 'labour democrats'. Its unmistakable mission is to provide alternative leadership to the 8-year-old Nigeria Labour Congress (NLC).

While the leadership of the Congress has not gone down well with certain general secretaries and political heads of the trade unions, it is equally most dishonest and unpatriotic for the disgruntled to seek to pull down the moderate administration of Com-

rade, Alhaji Ali Chiroma. Afterall, Chiroma as a compromise leader, has, from all indications managed to steer the ship of the Congress by constantly striking a balance between extremist leftist tendencies and right-wing pressure.

It is most ridiculous that some of the objections by the dissident group include the candidature of Nigeria's frontline and respected Labour leader, Alhaji Hassan Adebayo Sunmonu for the presidency of the Organisation of African Trade Unions Unity (OATUU). It is baffling that opposition to his candidature should begin here and now, at a time when the issue had been resolved with the Federal Government, O.A.U. labour commission, majority of African Labour centres and other bodies endorsing his candidature.

We feel, the already battered labour movement ought to be allowed to recuperate and not to be pushed or stampeded into eventual disintegration.

A house divided against itself especially in the light of the recent ostracization of labour would only make it more vulnerable at a crucial moment in its history when a force of its type is much needed to advance the aspirations of the country's working class.

The rebel unionists have their intra-union crises to contend with and certainly would be doing a disservice to the masses of workers that they lead if they extend their quarrels to the central labour congress.

Defeated contenders to the N.L.C. throne might do well to wait until 1986 when the Congress' elections will be due rather than be seen as individuals of morbid ambitions, preoccupied only with the bring-down syndrome.

We are happy that the provision of Decree No. 22 of 1978 which recognises only one central labour congress is still in force. It is in the interest of government and workers as partners in progress to retain the law. We venture to warn that the N.L.C. leaders should sit down to resolve their differences in the interest of their struggles and of national security.

NIGERIA

NORTHERN EMIRS, CHIEFS MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS

One-Party System

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 18 Sep 86 pp 1, 4

[Article by Suwaid Ali & Aliyu Modibbo]

[Text]

EMIRS and chiefs in the North have recommended a one-party system for the country.

The emirs and chiefs said only a one-party system could adequately serve the interest of the nation and enable sanity, peace and harmony to prevail in our body polity.

Briefing newsmen on the outcome of the meeting of the emirs and chiefs in Kaduna yesterday, the Baraden Sokoto, Alhaji Ibrahim Dasuki, said these recommendations were part of the memorandum submitted by a sub-committee headed by the Emir of Kano, Alhaji Ado Bayero, for submission to the Political Bureau.

Alhaji Ibrahim said the recommendation of a one-party system was because traditional rulers "are the people most embarrassed when you have more than one party" as each party would go to them asking for support.

He said to safe-guard themselves, the emirs and chiefs suggested the one-party system because "it is fair enough" and that in multiparty system in the past there had been too much wranglings in the country.

Alhaji Ibrahim said the traditional rulers have also recommended a bi-cameral house of representatives comprising the senate and the house of representatives at the federal level.

On the composition of the senate, he said they recommended it should consist of members by nomination, comprising ex-presidents, ex-heads of state, ex-chiefs of staff, ex-chief judges and reputable members of the society that the president might consider as suitable for appointment there.

According to the traditional rulers, they should be the people "who cross-check not only what the house of representatives is doing but also initiate the impeachment of the president or vice-president or the chief judge of the federation

as the case may be".

He added that the body would recommend to the president the appointment of ministers and other key positions, saying that "of course, the emirs and chiefs feel that the ministers should come from the elected members of the house of representatives.

The emirs and chiefs recommended that the membership to house of representatives should however, be elective.

At the state level, the emirs and chiefs suggested that similar arrangement be applied and that it consisted of the house of assembly and the house of elders.

The house of assembly be elective while that of elders be by nomination and manned by excivil servants "who left their services with honour" such as ex-governors, ex-chief judges and ex-grand khadis, chiefs, emirs and other prominent people the governor might find fit and have the same function as those in the senate.

The Barade also said the emirs and chiefs recommended that the post of president and governor be zoned on a rotational basis to afford the opportunity for all capable Nigerians from any tribal group to aspire to such posts.

According to the emirs and chiefs, the term of office of any elective post "should not be more than five years and not "renewable," and that politics should be on part-time basis with members receiving only "seating allowances".

The Barade said the emirs and chiefs also resolved that they should not be partisan but expressed the need "for adequate constitutional protection."

Call for Islamic Laws

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 18 Sep 86 pp 1, 4

[Text] EMIRS and chiefs in the North have suggested that Muslims be allowed to be governed by Islamic laws and non-muslims by customary laws.

The traditional rulers said it was time Nigeria did away with alien legal systems and evolved laws entirely its own, acceptable to the people.

Baraden Sokoto, Alhaji Ibrahim Dasuki, briefing newsmen on the outcome of Tuesday's meeting of emirs and chiefs in the North in Kaduna yesterday, said our current legal system was imposed on us without consent or consultation.

The rulers said we should go to what was acceptable to us.

According to the Baraden Sokoto, the traditional rulers felt bitter about this situation and suggested that "there should be a referendum for Nigerians to determine what kind of legal system we would have rather than the one imposed".

The traditional rulers noticed with concern how our judiciary was associated with lack of confidence, particularly at the local level where minor cases were unnecessarily delayed.

The Barade said the traditional rulers said in the next political era there should be a house of chiefs which should be responsible for dealing with all matters related to chieftaincy affairs.

The traditional rulers said taking away the responsibility of the management of land from the traditional institutions and giving it to others has brought abuse because those who were there only "found a quick way of making money".

They suggested that they should have a say in land allocation "so that the interest of those who needed it could be reasonably protected", and a constitutional provision to safeguard land to prevent desert encroachment and soil erosion.

The traditional rulers were of the opinion that any future constitution for the country must be accepted through a referendum so that "people will feel that this is a Nigerian constitution written by them for them.

Any subsequent amendments in the constitution they said must be made by a referendum where two-third of eligible voters would have voted for it and two-thirds of the total states would have taken part in it.

On the civil service, the Barade said the traditional rulers were of the view that it should be strengthened and given proper protection so that they could be dedicated to their duties, be honest and give good advise to the government and regain their past glory.

/12828
CSO: 3400/39

NIGERIA

GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCES CABINET, GOVERNOR CHANGES

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 19 Sep 86 pp 1, 3

[Text]

THE Minister of Mines, Power and Steel, Professor Tam David-West, and the Governor of Benue State. Colonel Yohanna Madaki, have been removed from their posts by the Federal Government.

The government also appointed three ministers and swapped the places of others.

Chief Press Secretary to the President, Chief Duro Onabule, releasing the details yesterday, said the new Governor of Benue State is Colonel Ishaya Bakut who now takes over from Colonel Madaki, removed from Gongola State only a few weeks ago.

The new ministers are Air Commodore Bayo Lawal, Minister of Sports and Social Development; Mr. Tony Momoh, until now, General Manager (Publications) of the Daily Times of Nigeria, Minister of Information and Culture and Alhaji Ismaila Mamman, Commissioner for Finance, Kaduna State; now Minister of Trade.

Major-General Muhammadu Gado Nasko, Minister of Trade, now takes over the Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources from Lt.-General Alani Akinrinade (rtd) who moves over to the Ministry of Industries.

Minister of Industries, Alhaji Bunu Sheriff Musa, takes over from Professor Tam David-West.

President Ibrahim Babangida swore in the new appointees at the council chambers, Dodan Barracks, Lagos.

Congratulating the new ministers after they took their oath of office, President Babangida reminded them of the difficult economic times the nation was passing through.

He said it was a great challenge which required hard work to tackle it.

He expressed the hope that the new ministers would demonstrate a total commitment to the task of revamping the economy.

Minister of Defence, Major-General Domka' Bali, Chief of Army Staff, Major-General Sani Abacha, Chief of Naval Staff, Rear Admiral Augustus Aikhomu, Chief of Air Staff, Air-Vice Marshal Ibrahim Alfa and the Inspector-General of Police, Mr. Etim Inyang and some members of the Armed Forces Ruling Council (AFRC) witnessed the swearing-in ceremony.

The changes were the third by government.

The first reshuffle last January witnessed the swapping of portfolios by six ministers, the second in August saw the appointment of eight new governors, reassignment of five governors and the redeployment of eight governors.

/12828

CSO: 3400/39

NIGERIA

CONSUMERS CHARGE DISTRIBUTORS EXPLOITING SFEM TO RAISE PRICES

Lagos SUNDAY TIMES in English 14 Sep 86 p 31

[Text] FOR the proposed Second-tier Foreign Exchange Market (SFEM) to succeed in Sokoto State, the government would have to scrap the system of distributing goods through accredited distributors and agents.

According to a group of concerned community leaders who called at the Times office in Sokoto, distributors, dealers and agents of essential commodities in the state, were already sabotaging the proposed marketing innovation by hiking prices of almost all available commodities by more than 600 per cent.

The group consisting of about 100 elderly men and women, housewives, civil servants and a few market stall operators emphasised that "unless government did something urgent to curtail the excesses of the distributors, dealers and agents, "SFEM" was doomed to fail even before it officially took off in the state."

Led by Alhaji Atta Sokoto, the protesting consumers explained that it has already become impossible for residents of affordable prices owing to what they termed "the unholy alliance between distributors and managers of

commodity companies in the state."

They cited the example of prohibitive costs of detergents and sugar in the open markets.

A swift follow-up survey in the major markets in Sokoto, Birni-Kebbi, Arugunwu, Yariri, Zuru and Gusau revealed that whereas distributors and dealers still collect same number of cartons of the various commodities on the same approved prices fixed years ago they sold same at more than 600 per cent above the approved prices.

A carton of medium sized packet of detergent, according to our findings, was allocated to dealers at a fixed price of N28 but the dealers, distributors and agents sold it between N250.00 to N300.00.

The exorbitant prices are applicable to other essential commodities.

The protesting community leaders appealed to the government to save them from the clutches of the unpatriotic distributors.

NIGERIA

GOVERNMENT ISSUES TEXT OF DECREE ON FOREIGN EXCHANGE MARKET

Lagos DAILY TIMES in English 24 Sep 86 pp 5, 18

[Text]

THE FEDERAL MILITARY GOVERNMENT hereby decrees as follows:—

1.—(1) There is hereby established a Second-Tier Foreign Exchange Market (hereafter in this Decree referred to as "the Market") where transactions in foreign exchange shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions of this Decree.

(2) Subject to this Decree, the Central Bank of Nigeria may, with the approval of the Minister, issue from time to time guidelines to regulate the procedures for transactions in the Market and such other matters as may be deemed appropriate for the effective operation of the Market.

(3) If the provisions of any other enactment are inconsistent with the provisions of this Decree, the provisions of this Decree shall prevail and that other law shall, to the extent of the inconsistency, be void.

(4) For the avoidance of doubt, the provisions of the Exchange Control (Anti-Sabotage) Decree 1984 shall not apply to transactions lawfully conducted in the Market.

2.—(1) Transactions in the Market shall be conducted in any convertible foreign currency.

(2) Without prejudice to the generality of the provisions of subsection (1) of this section, transactions in the Market shall, in addition,

be conducted through the usual money market instruments, that is to say—

- (a) foreign bank notes;
- (b) foreign coins;
- (c) travellers' cheques;
- (d) bank drafts;
- (e) mail or telegraphic transfers; and
- (f) such other money market instruments as the Central Bank may, from time to time, with the approval of the Minister, determine.

3.—(1) Any person executing any transaction in the Market shall not be required, and if required, shall not be obliged, to disclose the source of foreign currency to be sold in the Market.

(2) No foreign currency imported pursuant to this Decree shall be liable to seizure or forfeiture or to suffer any form of expropriation by the Government of the Federation or of a State except as provided in section 19 (5) of this Decree.

4. For the avoidance of doubt, foreign currency from the following sources may be sold in the Market, that is to say—

- (a) foreign currency domiciliary accounts maintained in authorised banks in Nigeria in accordance with the Foreign Currency (Domiciliary Accounts) Decree 1985;
- (b) foreign currency held or imported by—

(i) Nigerian citizens returning home from abroad;

(ii) foreign nationals resident in Nigeria;

(iii) foreign tourists visiting Nigeria;

(c) agency commissions, professional fees and other forms of invisible earnings;

(d) non-oil export proceeds earned by exporters of Nigerian commodities;

(e) unspent balance of foreign currency held by Nigerians resident in Nigeria;

(f) foreign currency imported by foreigners to purchase goods in Nigeria;

(g) foreign currency imported or held by foreign embassies and international organisations from external sources;

(h) funds held in approved external accounts by oil producing companies;

(i) funds held in external accounts by individuals, bodies corporate and unincorporate, commission agents, professional bodies, insurance companies and such similar bodies;

(j) foreign currency imported by tourists to Nigeria;

(k) foreign currency provided by the Central Bank;

(l) foreign exchange imported for direct investment in Nigeria;

(m) foreign currency from such other sources as the Minister may, from time to time by order published in the Gazette, specify.

5.—(1) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in any other

enactment whatsoever, including—

(a) the Exchange Control Act 1962;

(b) the Banking Act 1960;

(c) the Exchange Control (Anti-Sabotage) Decree 1984;

(d) Foreign Currency (Domiciliary Accounts) Decree 1985;

the Minister may, for the purpose of this Decree, appoint any bank or non-banking corporate organisation as an Authorised Dealer of foreign currency; which authorisation shall be liberally granted to organisations that show evidence of adequate resources and capacity to operate in accordance with the provisions of this Decree.

(2) An Authorised Dealer appointed under subsection (1) of this section shall operate in the Market subject to such terms and conditions as the Minister may specify in the letter of appointment.

6.—(1) The Minister may revoke the appointment of any Authorised Dealer, if he has reason to believe that it is not in the national interest that such person shall continue to operate as an Authorised Dealer under this Decree.

(2) Any person aggrieved by the decision of the Minister in subsection (1) of this section to revoke his appointment as an Authorised Dealer may, within 28 days of the receipt by him of the Minister's letter of revocation, appeal in

writing to the President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces.

(3) The President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces may, after giving consideration to the circumstances of the case, revoke the decision of the Minister.

(4) The decision of the President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces shall be final and no suit or proceeding shall be entertained in any court of law.

7. The Market shall be structured along the inter-bank system, that is to say—

(a) dealings between the public and Authorised Dealers appointed under this Decree;

(b) dealings between the Authorised Dealers appointed under this Decree inter se; and

(c) weekly biddings and price fixing sessions between authorised dealers appointed under this Decree on the one hand and the Central Bank on the other hand.

8—(1) The Central Bank shall supervise and monitor the operation of the Market established by this Decree to ensure an efficient performance of the Market.

(2) The Minister shall have overall control of the system and shall issue such direction not inconsistent with this Decree as to him may seem appropriate for the efficient operation of the Market established by this Decree.

9.—(1) Dealings in the Market shall be by way of spot and forward transactions as defined in subsection (2) of this section.

(2) For the purpose of subsection (1) of this section—

(a) "spot transaction" means the purchase or sale of foreign exchange for immediate delivery or within a period of 3 working days from the date of the transaction;

(b) "forward transaction" means the purchase or sale of foreign exchange at a fixed

exchange rate for delivery at a fixed date not earlier than 4 working days from the date of the forward contract.

(3) The rate at which each transaction is to be executed shall be the rate mutually agreed between the applicant purchaser and the Authorised Dealer concerned.

10.—(1) Subject to subsection (2) of this section, any public or private sector transaction adequately supported by appropriate documents shall for the purposes of this Decree be an eligible transaction for the purchase of foreign exchange in the Market.

(2) For the avoidance of doubt no application for the purchase of foreign exchange in the Market shall be processed or in any way attended to unless such application is accompanied by satisfactory documentary evidence of a valid due or outstanding obligation in respect of a commercial or service transaction or of a capital transaction of the nature referred to in section 14 (4) or 15 of this Decree.

(3) The Guidelines issued from time to time under subsection (2) of section 1 of this Decree shall in addition to any other provisions make provision concerning the specifications of the documents that may be tendered in support of an application under this Decree.

11.—(1) Nothing in this Decree shall be construed—

(a) as permitting any unrestrained or general dealing in foreign currency on terms not consistent with the provisions of this Decree;

(b) to imply that transactions relating to goods, services or items absolutely prohibited by any Decree or law may be conducted in the Market.

(2) Any convertible currency or money market instrument stipulated in subsection (2) of section 2 of

this Decree purchased or obtained from the market shall not be lodged in any domiciliary account opened under the Foreign Currency (Domiciliary Account) Decree 1985.

12. Any foreign exchange purchase from the Market may be repatriated from Nigeria and shall not be subject to any further approval by the Minister or the Central Bank or any other exchange control requirement.

13. Nothing in this Decree shall affect the operation of any law restricting the importation or exportation of the Naira.

14.—(1) Subject to the provisions of the Nigerian Enterprises Promotion Act 1977, any person may invest in an appropriate enterprise any foreign currency imported into Nigeria and converted into naira in the Market in accordance with the provisions of this Decree.

(2) The Central Bank shall, within 14 days of the submission of the relevant document in support of importation of capital by an Authorised Dealer, issue a Certificate of Importation in such form as the Minister may prescribe.

(3) Where any fund is imported into Nigeria and invested in any enterprise pursuant to the provisions of subsection (1) of this section, such fund as well as any profits or dividends derived therefrom may be repatriated at the option of the importer through the Market as provided in subsection (4) of this section.

(4) An application for the repatriation of profits dividends and capital affected by subsection (1) of this section shall be submitted to the Minister who may approve that such fund be repatriated through the Market.

(5) The Minister may approve an application under subsection (4) of this section if he is satisfied that—

(a) the application relates to bona fide current transactions;

(b) where the application relates to a transfer of capital abroad that it is not such as to destabilize or prejudice the orderly operation of the Market.

(6) The Minister may delegate his functions under subsections (4) and (5) of this section to any employee of his Ministry and of such ranks as he may designate from time to time.

15.—(i) All transactions to which the provisions of subsection (2) of this section relate are hereby declared to be Official First-Tier foreign exchange transactions and shall be settled at the rate of exchange prevailing at the date when—

(a) all documentation prescribed by the Central Bank to be relevant to the transaction concerned were submitted to the Central Bank;

(b) the obligation to which the documentation relates has having regard to the nature of such transaction, become due and payable; and

(c) the corresponding naira component of the transaction has been deposited with the Central Bank;

whichever last occurs; so however that no such transaction shall be regarded as due and payable unless the provisions of paragraphs (a) to (c) of this subsection have all been complied with.

(2) The Official First-Tier Market transactions referred to in sub-section (1) of this section are as follows

(a) any transaction covered by a specific import licence issued in 1985 or 1986 for which a confirmed and irrevocable letter of credit was established on or before the last day immediately preceding the commencement of this Decree;

(b) capital transfers, profits, dividends and other invisible payment for which approval has been granted by the Federal Ministry of

Finance or the Central Bank on or before the last day immediately preceding the commencement of this Decree;

(c) public or private sector transactions relating to debt; service obligations that are due and payable, official contributions and grants to international organisations and remittances to Nigerian Missions abroad;

(d) net proceeds of air tickets sold by foreign airlines up to and including the last day immediately preceding the commencement of this Decree; provided that the first leg of the journey out of Nigeria had begun before the date of commencement of this Decree;

(e) any transaction valid for foreign exchange in respect of which advance import duty on Form C 188 had been paid, a Clean Report of Findings issued by the Inspection Agent, and documents submitted to the immediately preceding the commencement of this Decree.

16—(1) All transactions in respect of which documents were lodged with the Central Bank for the issue of the necessary foreign exchange cover accordance with the relevant refinancing scheme established for such transactions.

(2) All outstanding obligations to surrender foreign exchange or to submit documents in support of receipt of goods for which the Central Bank has already made available foreign exchange on the basis of confirmed letters of credit shall not be extinguished by the establishment of the Market under this Decree.

17—(1) The Minister shall, with the approval of the President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces, appoint a date when the First-Tier Foreign Exchange Market shall cease to operate.

(2) Accordingly, as from the date of the termination of the First-Tier Foreign Exchange Market as may be specified under subsection (1) of this section, all foreign exchange transactions shall be conducted in the Second-Tier Foreign Exchange Market set up under section 1(1) of this Decree.

18—(1) All Authorised Dealers appointed under this Decree shall submit to the Minister, at such intervals as the Minister may prescribe, returns of their activities in the Market; and such returns shall be in such form as the Minister may, from time to time by regulations published in the Gazette, prescribe.

(2) Any Authorised Dealer who fails, neglects or refuses to submit the returns referred to in subsection (1) of this section, shall be guilty of an offence and liable to be dealt with as provided in subsection (5) of section 16 of the Banking Act 1959.

19 -- (1) Any person, body corporate or unincorporate who —

(a) with intent to defraud, forges, mutilates, utters or defaces any foreign currency, travellers cheques or other instrument of exchange in the Market; or

(b) converts any foreign exchange to a use for which it is not intended under this Decree; or

(c) Negotiates and draft, foreign bank note, other foreign exchange or any other trading instrument otherwise than as permitted by this Decree, or

(d) forges or produces as genuine any false document to the Central Bank or the Market, with a view to utilising such document in any transaction in the

Market established under this Decree; shall be guilty of an offence under this Decree and liable as provided in subsection (2) of this section.

(2) Any person convicted of an offence under subsection (1) of this section shall be liable.

(a) in the case of an individual, to imprisonment for a term of 15 years without any option of a fine; and

(b) in the case of a body corporate, to a fine ten times the amount of the foreign currency involved.

(3) All the asset movable or immovable including motor vehicles, of any person convicted of an offence under this sections shall be forfeited to the Federal Military Government.

(4) Where the person convicted in subsection (2) of this section is an Authorised Dealer, the court by whom he is convicted may recommend to the Minister that his appointment as an Authorised Dealer be revoked.

(5) Where an offence under this Decree has been committed by a body corporate, every person who, at the time of the commission of the offence, was a proprietor, director, manager, secretary or other similar officer of the body corporate, or was purporting to act in such capacity, shall be deemed to be guilty of that offence unless he proves that the offence was committed without his consent or connivance and that he had exercised all such diligence as he ought to have exercised having regard to the nature of his functions in that capacity.

(6) The Tribunal may, in addition to any other penalty imposed, order that the foreign currency involved be forfeited to the Government of the Federation.

(7) An offence under this Decree shall be triable by

the Special Military Tribunal established under the Exchange Control (Anti-Sabotage) Decree 1984 as amended.

(8) The provisions relating to appeals and confirmation contained in the Recovery of Public Property (Special Military Tribunals) Decree 1984 (as amended) shall apply mutatis mutandis as if they are one with the provisions of this Decree.

20.—(1) The requirement heretofore to surrender all foreign currency on importation thereof into Nigeria is hereby abolished.

(2) Accordingly, no person shall be required to declare such foreign currency, unless its value is in excess of the equivalent of US \$5,000 (five thousand United States dollars); so however that no person shall have the power to export foreign exchange which had earlier been imported, unless at the port of entry the importer had declared such foreign currency.

(3) Foreign exchange in excess of US \$5,000 (five thousand United States dollars) or its equivalent shall be declared for reason of statistics only.

(4) Subject to the foregoing provisions of this section the Central Bank shall design a new form to replace form k/Tm popularly known as the Yellow Form for use in the declaration of foreign exchange imported under this Decree.

(5) An exporter of Nigerian commodities shall open a foreign currency domiciliary account with an authorised bank of its choice in Nigeria into which all the proceeds of such export shall be fully credited.

(6) All foreign exchange transactions at the weekly fixing sessions under this Decree shall be subject to such levy payable to the Central Bank as the Minister may, from time to

time, specify.

(7) The proceeds of non-oil exports deposited in the foreign currency domiciliary account shall be utilized only for eligible transactions.

21. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (4) of section 1 of this Decree, the relevant provisions of all existing enactments including the following, that is to say —

(a) the Bill of Exchange Act;

(b) the Central Bank of Nigeria Act;

(c) the Exchange Control Act 1962;

(d) the Banking Act 1969;

(e) the Exchange Control (Anti-Sabotage) Decree 1984;

(f) the Foreign Currency (Domiciliary Accounts) Decree 1985;

shall be read with such modifications as to bring them into conformity with the provisions of this Decree.

22.—(1) The Minister may, after consultation with the Central Bank, make such regulations, not inconsistent with the provisions of this Decree, as may be required for carrying into effect the intentment of this Decree.

(2) In particular, the Minister may, after consultation with the Central Bank, make regulations relating to the following—

(a) concerning the various forms required under this Decree;

(b) designating additional sources of foreign exchange under section 4 of this Decree;

(c) the form of permit to be issued to an Authorised Dealer appointed under this Decree; and

(d) the rate of levy on certain transactions under this Decree.

23. In this Decree, unless the context otherwise require:—

"Authorised Dealer" means any bank or other corporate body appointed as such by the Minister under the provisions of this Decree;

"Central Bank" means the Central Bank of Nigeria.

"First-Tier Foreign Exchange Market" means the foreign exchange market operated by the Central Bank up to the date specified by virtue of section 17 of this Decree;

"Foreign currency" means convertible foreign currency; "Market" means the Second-Tier Foreign Exchange Market established pursuant to section 1

(1) of this Decree;

"Minister" means the Minister charged with responsibility for matters relating to finance, and Ministry shall be construed accordingly.

24.—(1) This Decree may be cited as the Second-Tier Foreign Exchange Market Decree 1986.

(2) This Decree shall come into force on such date as the Minister may, by order published in the Gazette, appoint.

Made at Lagos this day of 1986.

President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces, Federal Republic of Nigeria

EXPLANATORY NOTE:
(This note does not form part of this Decree but is intended to explain its purport)

The Decree establishes the Second-Tier Foreign Exchange Market for trading in foreign currencies and other foreign exchange instruments.

Accordingly, it provides that only approved transactions supported by documents and complying with specified conditions may be conducted in the market. The Decree, in addition, abolishes the mandatory requirement that residents of Nigeria must surrender foreign currencies imported into the country and permits the Minister to liberally grant authorisation to organisations as Authorised Dealers in the Market.

NIGERIA

NKOMO-MUGABE REAPPROACHMENT IN ZIMBABWE PRAISED

Lagos DAILY TIMES in English 10 Sep 86 p 8

[Editorial: "Reapproachment in Zimbabwe"]

[Text]

REPORTS that Joshua Nkomo and Prime Minister Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe have reached an understanding to end their quarrel in the interest of the country, is something to cheer about.

The relationship between the ruling party ZANU-PF led by Mugabe, and the major opposition party ZAPU-PF led by Nkomo, had been very bad leading to bloody clashes.

This development has been a source of serious concern to most African countries once pleased by the way two of them united under the Patriotic Front to prosecute the war of liberation.

A clear evidence of the new pleasant development is the drop of treason charges against Nkomo and his supporters and the release from detention of all those detained for the offence.

The rapprochement between Mugabe and Nkomo is better appreciated when realised that some leaders of liberation movements that earned independence for their country, could not sink their differences.

A glaring example is that of Angola. The nationalist groups which fought for the independence of that country now see themselves as arch enemies. For example, the UNITA led by Jonas Savimbi, and FNLA headed by Holden Roberto, today collaborate with South Africa and other enemies of Angola to fight the

legitimate government of the MPLA.

The same type of collaboration with racist South Africa by former nationalists is also evident in Mozambique. We are, therefore, happy that Nkomo and Mugabe did not allow their differences to degenerate to a stage where enemies of Africa could have been given the chance to destroy the gains of their hard-won independence.

Now that they have started to sink their differences, they should not rule out the possibility of the negative interference from outside. They should watch against this and ensure that the interest of the country supercedes, at all times, narrow and personal considerations.

For them to succeed, they should mutually respect each other and appeal to their supporters to do same. They should not allow the sharing of political offices to dim the bright prospects for a lasting peace in Zimbabwe.

/12828

CSO: 3400/40

GOVERNMENT POLICY ON DISPUTED LAND SUPPORTED

Enugu DAILY STAR in English 9 Sep 86 p 3

[Editorial: "Government and Disputed Land"]

[Text]

A FEW days ago, Governor Emeka Omeruah warned that government would now be compelled to take over disputed lands and convert them into government's own use. Such lands may be turned into farms or any other use that may be found necessary.

SUCH a policy statement by the governor certainly evokes wide support.

THIS part of the country has been very notorious about land disputation. Communities are arrayed against one another and always, the dispute ends in bloodbath and large-scale destructions of lives and property over a useless piece of land. Even where they seek redress in the law court to determine ownership, the litigation takes such a long time that the communities are subjected to raising large sums of money to pay their counsel. Sometimes, the litigation takes a life time and is inherited by generations.

THE concept of ownership of land in communities in Southern Nigeria is such that land belongs to both the dead and the living and the unborn generations.

BUT our day ownership of land is now vested in the state. The Land Use Decree makes any other claim irrelevant. The state is supreme and government is an agent of the state. This presupposes that only government can guarantee any claim to land. The Land Use Decree was the best revolutionary step taken by the military to all intents and purposes. And

if the Decree were to be well interpreted and executed, there is no doubt that land disputes could have been well curtailed and land speculators will cease to breathe.

LAND dispute is an ill wind which does nobody any good. The money that could have been used to develop the community is wasted in litigation. Communities take up arms to assert their right of ownership of the land. Communal efforts that could have fostered rural development and improve life are dissipated in the struggle over claim of land.

IN our time, we have watched Akpu and Achina, two communities that have linguistic and cultural affinity fight over land, nor does the Obosi and Onitsha land episode give us any thought for joy. More recently, the people of Uga in Aguata and Unubi in Nnewi LGA have witnessed destructions of property and the sacking of villages, because of land dispute.

IN our present stage of development land dispute should no longer be tolerated by government.

OWNERSHIP of land is vested in the state. The state is supreme and government acting as the agent of the state must enforce the rights of the state over the claims of any community.

WE strongly support Governor Omeruah's new policy on disputed lands. The government must acquire such lands.

This is the right step to take.

NIGERIA

FEDERAL BUDGET TO EMPHASIZE NAIRA-FINANCED PROJECTS

Lagos DAILY TIMES in English 24 Sep 86 p 24

[Article by Raheem Mohammed]

[Text] **T**HE Federal Government is to place greater emphasis on capital projects with high naira content in the 1987 budget in preference to those that have heavy foreign exchange implications.

This indication is contained in the 1987 budget guidelines signed by the permanent Secretary Federal Ministry of Finance, Mr. U.K. Bello and sent to all heads of Federal Ministries and Parastatals.

According to the circular, it is necessary for proposals on capital expenditure to isolate foreign exchange components of the project in order to ensure that the objective is realised.

The circular also stipulated that for on-going projects, emphasis should be placed on projects with high linkage effect and are nearing completion.

It directed that new projects included in the proposals must first be cleared with the Ministry of National Planning and evidence of such clearance must be shown during the submission of the proposals.

In the preamble, of the circular, the government said that from all indications the revenue prospects in 1987 are likely to continue to remain uncertain.

For this ministries and departments are directed to undertake a thorough appraisal of their revenue heads with a view to arriving at a reliable and reasonable projection of their 1987 revenues.

They should also explore and make recommendations on new revenue sources related to the services they render

The guidelines also directed the ministries and departments to submit their proposals not later than Monday September 29.

/12828

CSO: 3400/40

NIGERIA

SALE OF MILITARY WEAPONS TO ROBBERS UNDER INVESTIGATION

Enugu DAILY STAR in English 11 Sep 86 p 16

[Article by Rex Okechukwu, Azubuike Nkala & Fide Ugwu]

[Text]

THREE soldiers are now helping the police in their investigation into circumstances surrounding the sale of some military weapons and uniforms to a team of detectives posing as armed robbers.

The arrest followed incessant reports that some armed robbers arrested in recent times were found with military weapons.

As a result of this development, detectives posed as armed robbers and visited the 82 Division Army Headquarters and Signals in Enugu, asking for a deal.

According to our source, the three suspects, described as a corporal and two privates, promised to release at N55 uniforms and ammunition which could have normally cost N500, for the use of the 'armed robbers'.

It was gathered that the suspects further demanded N500 for arms which could have also cost about N3,000.

The detectives handed over N55 and the suspects produced nine rounds of .762 mm calibre live ammunition and hand gloves to cover the "robbers" finger prints on any objects.

At the end of the deal, the detectives identified themselves and arrested the soldiers.

DAILY STAR gathered that police detectives were working round the clock to determine the extent of any influence from the superiors of the suspects.

A source close to the police, indicated that the deal had been prospering since a long time.

According to the source, the bank robbery at Nnewi, sometime this year, and other similar incidents in the state, were committed with

sophisticated military weapons.

The source also revealed that, without prejudice to whatever military action the suspects might face, their case fell under the armed robbery and firearms decree.

According to the source, police were now seriously determined to fish out the old "customers" of the suspects, adding: "we will smash a heavy gang at the end of the investigation".

It was also gathered that detectives were poised to get to the background of the suspects, with a view to finding out the specific criminals they had dealt with in the past.

The public relations officer for the police command, Mr Olavinka Babatunde, Balogun, confirmed the story, and added that the suspects had made useful statements to the police.

/12828

CSO: 3400/40

NIGERIA

NAVY VIEWS UPDATING OF FLAGSHIP WITH MODERN WEAPONS

Lagos DAILY TIMES in English 17 Sep 86 p 3

[Text]

THE flag officer commanding the Western Naval Command, Commodore Murtala Nyako, yesterday in Lagos said that the navy was seriously considering updating the weapons and weapons systems on board the former Nigerian Navy flag ship, NNS Obuma.

Commodore Nyako said Obuma (former NNS Nigeria), 21 years old on Monday, now requires weapons refit because the existing guns were out-dated.

He said that the ship's fighting capabilities needed to be improved to enable it to continue to fulfill its role as battle ship because its hull was still good, adding that it was easier to change the weapons system on Obuma than to replace the ship.

Commodore Nyako said that he was optimistic that Obuma would give many more years of service to the nation, adding that with development of greater capability for maintenance by the navy, its fleet would give more years of service.

The flag officer said that the navy would carry out a structural re-organisation of its fleet support services and supplies while more workshops would be built to increase the operational efficiency of the fleet.

According to him, the re-organisation is aimed at putting together a fleet support for maintenance and training operations in the navy's renewed emphasis on maintenance of war machines.

/12828

CSO: 3400/40

NIGERIA

GOVERNMENT COMMITTED TO PURSUING NEW EDUCATION SYSTEM

Ukiwe Statement

Lagos DAILY TIMES in English 23 Aug 86 pp 1, 13

[Text] The sum of N8,333,356 has been remitted to Nigerian missions overseas for the settlement of fees and allowances of government scholars.

Of the amount, N3,423 million went to the United States, while N3,989 million was sent to the United Kingdom.

Chief of General Staff said yesterday that arrangements were still on to remit more funds abroad.

Commodore Ukiwe said the Federal Government was determined to pursue 6-3-3-4 system of education, adding that the workshop equipment were being procured for schools.

He said the important implication of the 6-3-3-4 system was that after three years of junior secondary education, "with appropriate testing and counselling, students will be able to choose future career which is consistent with their interest and aptitude."

He said the three major choices open to them are:

To proceed to senior secondary to read the sciences, liberal arts, technical education,

To enter teachers college, for preparation as primary school teachers; or

To enter technical college or similar and appropriate institutions for craft and vocational training.

The chief of General Staff said government was determined to provide not only workshop and teaching equipment, to the schools and tertiary institutions, but also library facilities.

He said government had already set aside N295,000 from the first quarter allocation to meet the needs of the country's institutions.

He said the second quarter allocation would bring the total to ₦295,000 which would be shared among the 41 Federal Government colleges and the government girls colleges.

He said ₦50,000 was set aside for the 10 federal colleges of education and ₦30,000 for the six federal school of arts and science, while Federal Technical College, Yaba, would receive ₦5,000.

The Chief of Staff declared: "In pursuance of the Federal Government policy of encouraging technical education, government would continue to award scholarships under the technical teacher programme.

Anambra Problems

Enugu DAILY STAR in English 18 Sep 86 p 16

[Article by Ikechukwu Ani, Tony Enem & Martins Anyaegbu]

[Text]

THE Anambra State Commissioner of Education, Mrs Grace Obayi, has in Enugu said that the new education system conceived at a time the country was buoyant is now facing a serious problem of inadequate funding.

Mrs Obayi who was a guest speaker at the on-going 1986 Press Week of the Nigeria Union of Journalists, Anambra State Council, spoke on "the problems of education administration in relation to the 6-3-3-4 system".

She said that due to lack of funds that it was not possible for the government to provide all the necessary infrastructures required for the effective operation of the system.

According to her "although we are about to enter a second year into the senior secondary, some junior secondary schools are yet to build the workshops for introductory technology, a very essential component of this system."

The commissioner continued "even where they are available and well equipped, in most cases there is no electricity for the operation of the machines."

It has not been possible, she said to provide enough equipment such as typewriters, science apparatus, cookers, sewing machines, etc.

Mrs Obayi who said that the 6-3-3-4 system if operated in an ideal setting was good,

observed that since it had rendered the old syllabuses and some text books obsolete, new syllabuses and new text books based on the new system had to be produced.

She explained that this task was yet to be completed adding also that the increased number of school subjects brought with it a corresponding increase of the number of required specialist teachers. "It is not however easy to provide these teachers in sufficient number especially in technical subject areas."

On the continuous assessment, the commissioner announced that every effort was being made to simplify its process and procedures to make it less tedious and time consuming.

She noted that an important feature of this assessment is that it de-emphasises the importance originally attached to end-of-term and certificate examinations as the chief determinant of a child's ability.

NIGERIA

COMMISSION OF INQUIRY ON STUDENT CRISES ESTABLISHED

Enugu WEEKLY STAR in English 24 Aug 86 p 16

[Article by John Nwosu]

[Text] **T**HE Head of State, Major General Ibrahim Babangida, has constituted a commission of inquiry into the events leading to the students crises in various institutions of higher learning in May, this year.

An instrument constituting the commission just gazetted explained that the commission shall investigate and determine the factors surrounding the recent crises in the institutions, having regard to the immediate precipitating factors of the crises, and the role of student unionism and leadership in creating the disturbances.

The commission shall also determine the extent of loss of life, injury to persons and loss of property, and investigate the effect and influence, if any, of the institutions' staff and other individuals and organisations in promoting the crises.

The commission shall also investigate and determine the role of the institutions' authorities, including the law enforcement agencies, during the control of the disturbances, and in the light of its findings, apportion blame, if any, and make any other recommendations considered desirable by the commission in order to

prevent any such disruption of higher educational system in future as a result of events in any institution.

The commission shall submit its report to the president not later than eight weeks from the date of its first sitting.

President Babangida appointed Justice Muhammed Mustapha Adebayo Akanbi as chairman of the commission, with Mallam Musa Shafii as its secretary.

Other members of the commission are Mr Orji Nwafor Orizu, Mrs V. O. Adebekun, Mr O. A. Ufot, and Alhaji Abubakar Girei.

The head of state directed that any four members of the commission, of whom one shall be the chairman, shall constitute a quorum, and that the commission shall hold its first meeting immediately after the date of the instrument.

He further directed the commission to visit any institution of higher learning it considers necessary, especially, the University of Ibadan, Ife, Lagos, Nsukka, Benin, and the University of Jos, as well as the Kaduna Polytechnic and Yaba College of Technology.

/12828

CSO: 3400/39

NIGERIA

FIGURES ON KANO ILLITERACY, EDUCATION GIVEN

Kano THE TRIUMPH in English 9 Sep 86 pp 1, 2

[Article by Musa Ilallah]

[Text]

KANO State has about 4,800,000 illiterate adults whose ages range between 15 and 75 years, out of a population of about 12 million.

Disclosing this at this year's International Literacy Day celebrations in Kano yesterday, the Director of the State Agency for Mass Education, Mallam Umaru Aji said this figure was based on an assessment conducted by the Federal Ministry of Education.

Mallam Aji said equally frightening are the high figures of primary and post primary schools' dropouts and tertiary graduates.

The Director stated that the Agency would soon put forward its proposals to the state government on how to minimise, contain or even eradicate these problems within the short span of five years.

Recounting the achievements of his Agency, the Director said that over 250,000

people had benefited from its numerous programmes since its inception in 1982.

The Agency has gone a long way in raising peoples' consciousness to acquire education and allow their children to attend schools which hitherto was a problem in the state, the Director emphasised.

Alhaji Aji also explained that his Agency had shown practically, how the concept of literacy and non-formal education had been applied to functionality, productivity and the real world of work.

In his address, the state Commissioner for Education, Alhaji Ibrahim Isma'ila, stated that the state had witnessed a tremendous expansion in education, especially in the primary and post-primary sectors.

According to the education commissioner, the state, with 241 primary schools and an

enrolment of 49,586 pupils and 16 post primary schools enrolling 4,099 students in 1968 now has over 800,000 pupils and 220 post primary schools with 105,000 students.

The commissioner pinpointed such problems as falling standard of education which according to him, is the bedrock at the primary schools level and the problem of school dropouts, as facing education in the state.

NIGERIA

DROP IN NATIONAL REVENUE REPORTED

Enugu WEEKLY STAR in English 24 Aug 86 p 16

[Article by Chris Agulfefo]

[Text]

THE Chief of General Staff, Commodore Ebitu Ukiwe, has disclosed that the nation recorded a slump in federally collected revenue to the tune of over N10 billion in the last half of the fiscal year, thus causing a chain reaction that was detrimental to the smooth functioning of the economy.

During that period, a little over N5.175 billion was collected as against the projected revenue of N15.6 billion expected by the government.

The Chief of General Staff disclosed this when he briefed media executives at the State House, Marina, Lagos, on Friday.

Commodore Ukiwe said that the total revenue which accrued to the federal government from January to June, this year, was N4.4 billion, comprising mainly N3.2 billion share of the Federation Account and other miscellaneous revenue.

Also, receipts into the Economic Recovery Funds as at the end of June amounted to N931,663 million, and this is against the projected receipt of N2.4 billion during the fiscal year, while the total expenditure up to the end of June was N5.672 billion.

Commodore Ukiwe disclosed that out of the revenue which accrued from the National Economic Recovery Fund, N322,374 million has so far been disbursed.

On the foreign exchange sector, he said that during the quarter, the country recorded a total inflow of N1,558,395,000, which is N922,623 less than the total inflow of N2,481,018,000 during the first quarter.

During the same quarter, a total outflow of N1,941,395,000 was recorded.

Thus, he said, while the total projection for the year was N9.582 billion, the actual performance was N4,039,413,000 against an outflow of N4,274,326,000.

Commodore Ukiwe who was presenting President Babangida's first year progress report to media executives, said that with regard to the Second-Tier

Foreign Exchange Scheme, a decree to that effect has been signed by the president, and the date of actual operation would be announced by the minister of finance.

He said that in order to intensify revenue generation, consideration is being given to the idea of a complete re-organisation of the Department of Customs and Excise in line with government views in the Gusau Study Group on Smuggling.

He noted that in the first five months of this year, the department collected a total revenue of N1.39 billion, an increase of about N260.26 million from the corresponding figure of last year.

NIGERIA

COST OF LIVING SOARING IN JOS

Enugu DAILY STAR in English 24 Sep 86 p 16

[Article by Obi Udefuna]

[Text]

UP, Up and Up, the cost of living has been going in Jos, capital city of Plateau State and the impact is now descending so heavily on the people.

It now takes an average family about N15 to N25 to maintain a three-square meal a day. And people with large families plus other dependants are severely affected by the on-going economic trend.

A survey conducted by the Daily Star in Jos Metropolis shows that prices of goods have now gone up in geometric progression, to about 250 per cent.

A tin of milk now costs N1.90 as against the former price of 90k to N1 about two months ago while a tin of medium sized dried Coast milk sells at between N8 and N9. Also, a medium sized Bornvita costs N5 and the large size sells N10.10 and a packet of sugar N3.50.

Locally made bar soap now costs N2.50 instead of the former price of 90k to N1 and a tablet of lux toilet soap now costs N1.50 instead of 60k about two months before.

Medium sized Omo which used to cost N1.50 now costs N5 to N6 while the large sized one has risen to N14 and N15.

Prices of meat and fish are also fast escalating as a measure of meat or fish obtainable at N5, N6 and N7 has gone up to N10, N12 and N14 respectively and no more N2 and N3 meat.

Others include vegetable oil whose price has risen to between N15 and N17 per tin and a gallon of palm oil now sells at between N28 and N30 while a bottle costs N3.50.

Cray-fish, ogbono and maggi cubes are also marching upward in the new price index and there is not yet any sign of the decreasing prices of the items.

Stockfish and dried fish have continued to be luxury as only the well-to-do ask for them. A middle sized stick of stockfish costs as much as N17 while four lumps of dried fish now cost N4 to N5.

Salt which had been one of the cheapest cooking ingredients has of late gone up astronomically in price. A middle sized bag of salt now sells at between N55 and N60 while a cup of salt costs as much as N2.

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CSO: 3400/40

NIGERIA

SURVEY PROVIDES LIVING STANDARD DATA

Lagos DAILY TIMES in English 13 Sep 86 p 5

[Article by Carol Obasuyi]

[Text]

THE 1983/84 round of the National Integrated Survey of Households (NISH) had shown that 38 per cent of rural adults engage in agriculture.

Under the General Household Survey the average size of household was 5.30 persons in the rural and 4.67 in the urban areas. The breakdown by sex and sector gives thus: male 2.61 (Rural), 2.36 (Urban), Female 2.69 (Rural) 2.31 (Urban). Sex ratio was close to 100:100 (i.e. equal number of males and females in both the Urban, and Rural areas. Although, there appeared to be slightly more females than males in the rural while the opposite was the case in the urban.

The ratio of households headed by males to those headed by females was found to be approximately 6:1 in rural and 4:1 in the Urban. Children of heads of the households constituted the largest group in the household accounting for about 53 per cent in both the urban and the rural areas. Other relations accounted for 90 per cent and 80 per cent in the rural and the urban

respectively.

In the rural areas, persons aged between 15 and 29 years, 53 per cent of the males were literate while only 33 per cent of the females were literate.

In the urban area, about 57 per cent of the adults were working, 21 per cent were keeping house, 19 per cent were schooling; 2 per cent seeking job and one per cent unable to work. The corresponding figures for the rural households were 55 per cent working, 29 per cent keeping house, 13 per cent schooling, 0.8 per cent seeking job and 2 per cent unable to work.

However, the breakdown of the occupational groups, little difference occurred between the rural and the urban; but the most pronounced of the differences was in agriculture, where about 38 per cent of the rural adults were engaged in agriculture, the corresponding figure for the urban was only 8 per cent.

Furthermore, 37 per cent of rural adults and 49 per cent of urban adults were engaged in clerical and other related jobs.

The average household income and expenditure was found to be higher in the urban areas than in the rural area.

The survey reveals that the average household earned N96.79 per month in the rural areas in increase over the previous years survey (1982/83) which was N79.00 per month. The urban households earned N228.00, while for the previous year 1982/83 it was N191.31.

Furthermore, 70 per cent of the rural sample households lived in single room apartment while 29 per cent lived in the whole buildings. Only one per cent lived in flats and duplexes.

On the other hand, 85 per cent of the urban households lived in single rooms, 8 per cent lived in whole buildings while 7 per cent occupied flats and duplexes.

Regarding dwelling, about 85 per cent of the rural dwelling unit were owner-occupied. Normal rent paying households was 5 per cent while those enjoying free rent were 7 per cent and those paying nominal rent were only 2 per cent.

Correspondingly, 34 per cent of the urban dwelling units were owner occupied and 31 per cent paid normal rent. While 26 per cent and 3 per cent occupy free accommodation and pay normal rent respectively.

tively.

Another noticeable feature of the household survey is the differential in the household facilities, 27 per cent of rural households had no kitchen and 39 per cent had no bathroom, 53 per cent and 40 per cent had exclusive use of kitchen and bathroom respectively. The percentage of urban household having no kitchen was 9 per cent but larger number of households (about 67 per cent) shared theirs, while 24 per cent had exclusive use of theirs.

The survey showed that in 1983/84, 54 per cent of all rural households had no toilet, over 43 per cent had pit toilet while 2 per cent used pail toilet. The water closet system was less than one per cent while in the urban areas, 17 per cent had no toilet, 56 per cent had pit toilet, 13 per cent had pail toilet while 14 per cent had water closet.

According to the report, wood was the commonest fuel used in the rural areas. In every state, over 60 per cent of the household was using it. The average for all rural areas in Nigeria was 80 per cent kerosine was relatively less used in the rural.

In the urban however, kerosine was the most popular fuel as 52 per cent of the households in all

states reported using it. The percentage of household using gas and electricity as commonest fuel were low, being just over 3 per cent and under 10 per cent respectively for all the urban areas of the country.

The survey equally reveals the disparity in wall building and roof types. In urban and rural area, in the rural areas, mud houses dominated; 44 per cent of all houses were mud unrendered while 21 per cent were mud rendered.

Cement block walls accounted for 17 per cent and thatch walls had 15

per cent; other types of walls accounted for only 3 per cent. In the urban however, cement block walls and mud wall with cement plaster (i.e. rendered) came in almost equal proportions (44 per cent and 41 per cent respectively). Mud unrendered walls had 14 per cent while other types of walls accounted for only one per cent.

For the materials of roof, iron sheets were the commonest type accounting for 84 per cent of all roofs in the urban and 48 per cent of those in the rural.

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CSO: 3400/40

NIGERIA

ANAMBRA FOOD PRODUCTION STRATEGY DELAYED

Enugu DAILY STAR in English 29 Aug 86 p 12

[Article by Christian Ngwu]

[Text] The Anambra State government has mapped out new strategies to ensure increased food production in the state.

The include the 'Graduate Farming Scheme' in which at least 4 hectares of land would be provided in each locality for unemployed graduates in the state, and 'the Village Adoption Scheme' in which necessary facilities would be provided in the rural areas to encourage rural farmers.

Also 100 hectares of land are to be provided by each local government area of the state for cultivation by farmers on a cooperative basis.

These facts were made known in Enugu by the Anambra State commissioner for Agriculture, Dr Fidelis Ogah in an interview with our reporter.

Dr Ogah said that the plan had not been implemented because of the lean financial resources of the state, but hoped that it would take off as soon as funds were made available.

The commissioner condemned the attitude of some farmers whom he said do not repay the loans granted to them, adding that out of the N3 million envisaged to have been disbursed to the farmers, only about N1.3 million were issued, owing to lack of fund.

He noted that the state rural farmers were adequately educated on modern methods of farming by the use of agricultural extension staff and the services of the agricultural development project, and added that his ministry was making serious effort to ensure that farm inputs get to farmers early enough.

Dr Ogah however, lamented that the fertilizers normally distributed to farmers were not enough owing to drastic reduction in its importation and added that there is no fertilizer production company/firm in Nigeria.

On the Anambra State Tractor Hire Scheme (ASTRAC), the commissioner emphasised that some of the broken down tractors in the state were unable to be repaired due to lack of spare parts.

He stated that the tractors could not serve all the farmers in the state because the financial resources of the state did not give room for the provision of numerous tractors.

The commissioner expressed that the agricultural yields realised by the Anambra State Ministry of Agriculture were normally distributed or sold to the working class before giving consideration to other citizens.

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CSO: 3400/40

NIGERIA

NATIONAL BANK INCREASED AGRICULTURE LOANS IN PAST YEAR

Lagos BUSINESS TIMES in English 8 Sep 86 p 3

[Text]

NATIONAL Bank of Nigeria expended ₦99.3 million by way of lending to the agricultural sector in the 1985/86 financial year. This is against ₦61.8 million lent out the previous year.

This was made known on Monday by the Chairman of the Bank, Professor Ayo Ogunshye, while addressing shareholders at the 53rd Annual General Meeting held at Eko Holiday Inn, Victoria Island, Lagos.

He said that the amount was 15.20 per cent of the bank's total loans and advances for the reporting year in comparison to 10.72 per cent the previous year.

Professor Ogunshye said that out of this total lending to agriculture, the food crop sub-sector accounted for 61.7 per cent while 12.5 per cent went to cash crop and the balance of 25.8 per cent went to other sub-sectors

such as livestock, forestry fishing and others.

Reiterating National Bank's determination to continue to give priority to the agricultural sector, Professor Ogunshye called for a policy of integrated rural development which would involve rural road construction, massive storage facilities, preservation processes and continued involvement of both the public and private sectors in rural development.

These, he pointed out, were necessary for a successful agrarian revolution.

Speaking on the growth of the bank during the reporting year, the chairman said 14 new branches were opened in different parts of the country under the second phase of the Rural Banking Pro-

gramme.

Under the third phase of the programme, he said, the twelve branches allocated to National Bank would be opened within the stipulated time.

He said that despite the adverse trends in the national economy and the general investment climate during the year, the bank had made efforts to mitigate the impacts on its overall performance.

Professor Ogunshye expressed the confidence that the bank would achieve higher profitability through continued efforts to harness and effectively utilize available resources, coupled with the injection of new ideas into its banking services for higher productivity.

NIGERIA

BOND ISSUES BY STATES DELAYED PENDING LEGISLATION

Lagos BUSINESS TIMES in English 8 Sep 86 p 16

[Text]

STATE governments wanting to raise money in the bonds market to finance some of their projects will have to wait at least for the interim.

BUSINESS TIMES gathered from reliable source from the capital market district that the federal government has written all state governors to that effect.

The action it was learnt, was taken to enable the Federal Government fashion out an enabling law that would regulate state governments' direct financing in the market as none presently exists.

Before the said federal government's instruction, in the absence of an enabling law but in line with the government's acceptance of the recommendations of the Okigbo committee, state governments wanting to raise money in the market had had to obtain a letter of consent from the ministry of finance as a back-up for their issues in order that the concerned securities be given Trustee Status under Trustee Investment Act 1986.

Ogun and Lagos State Governments' loan stocks which have been granted quotation on the Stock Exchange recently before the federal government's temporary road block might have obtained such letters of consent from the finance ministry.

Ogun State is raising a N15 million 12 per cent loan stock due to mature in 1996 for its water scheme while Lagos State is to raise N30 million 12½ per cent loan stock with 1995 as the gestation period for the development of Lekki Peninsula (Phase I), adding that the federal government took the decision "to streamline things", said our source.

According to a top merchant banker who also commented on the issue, the federal government's decision was said to be an after thought considering that the president in his silver jubilee independence anniversary speech called on state governments to avail themselves of the disciplines of the capital market to raise funds. And just in line and right on time, Lagos and Ogun State governments responded.

It was understood that many other states have made inquiries and indicated interest and "that might have made the government a little bit weary", said our source adding "stringent conditions may be introduced".

However, as contained in SEC Quarterly (volume 3 No. 1) of March this year, any state government wanting to raise funds in the bonds market has to appoint an issuing house which should forward the application with the following information among other things:

A profile of the state stating its estimated population, major economic products of the state, major industries. Existing debts of the state, sources of revenue for the past three years.

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CSO: 3400/40

NIGERIA

UNDP GRANTS TO TRAIN WOMEN, TECHNICAL TEACHERS

Kano THE TRIUMPH in English 17 Sep 86 p 11

[Text]

THE United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has approved two grants totalling 1.7 million US dollars (about N2.1 million) for the development of the skills of rural women in Nigeria and a Teachers' Training project in Gongola State.

According to a statement in Lagos, 888,118 US dollars (about N1.1 million) is for setting up of a skill development

unit for rural women within the home economics division of the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Water Resources and Rural Development.

The UNDP explained that the project, which was requested for by the Federal Government, was conceived and designed in keeping with the UN's policy of boosting the participation of women in the development of their countries.

The proposed unit, the statement said, would plan, co-ordinate and carry out activities initially in three geographical zones, Enugu, Ibadan and Jos.

The unit would train rural women in various works to increase their production of processed, farm, semi-agricultural and crafts products using appropriate technology and local resources, it added.

It explained that the project activities would focus on identifying specific women groups and their needs, installation of appropriate equipment in 10 selected village women's groups for food processing, preservation and storage as well as train women in basic business management skills, including the formation and operation of co-operatives.

The activities would also focus on dissemination of information on credit schemes and other

available funding sources and integrating women in development policy formation and decision making at both state and Federal levels, the statement said.

The UNDP said that the Gongola project, which would cost 853,600 US dollars (about N1.06 million) is to develop the capacity for the pre-service and in-service training of teachers of introductory technology in the state.

The project, which would be executed by the UNESCO, is designed to meet the need for sufficient number of qualified technical teachers in the junior secondary schools.

NIGERIA

EXAMPLE OF INDIA'S COAL MECHANIZATION BEING STUDIED

Lagos BUSINESS TIMES in English 8 Sep 86 p 1

[Article by Ndu Ughan adu]

[Text]

THE Nigerian Coal Corporation is studying the coal mechanization process of India with a view to knowing how suitable it is, to the country's (Nigeria) coal industry.

The Minister of Mines, Power and Steel, Professor Tam David-West told the Business Times last week in Lagos that this was one of the areas of co-operation he sought from the Indian government on his recent tour to the country.

Professor David-West who returned to the country last week said that the general manager of the Nigerian Coal Corporation, Mr. Festus Ugwu, was still in India to further study the mechanization adding that if found suitable, this would boost the country's coal production.

He said that what the coal industry needed most at the moment, was production mechanization to increase supply and meet market demands.

Said the minister: "The manual system of coal production has reduced production considerably."

A few months ago, the minister said that it was expected that the coal sector could be made to earn substantial foreign exchange for the government.

"With respect to production, negotiations have reached advanced stage with investors to supply equipment producing coal on large scale and profit oriented basis."

It is, therefore, expected that the coal corporation would produce three million tonnes of coal from Enugu and Benue Mines for local and export markets in 1986.

Accordingly, the corporation had worked out pricing modalities for the country's coal, the Minister added.

Between 1976-1982, attempts were made to mechanize the industry through a contract signed with a Polish firm, KOPEX, at a cost of N30 million out of which about N28 million had been paid out.

The Minister said that the contract did not yield much result adding that the machines had been lying waste at the coal mines because of their unsuitability to our soil.

The Nigerian Coal Corporation earned only 127,173.60 dollars from the exportation of 5,000 tonnes of coal in 1985.

NIGERIA

CEMENT COMPANY THREATENED BY COAL SHORTAGE

Enugu DAILY STAR in English 10 Sep 86 p 16

[Article by Ikechukwu Ani and Martins Anyaegbu]

[Text]

COAL supply is now becoming a serious threat to the existence of the Nigerian Cement Company (NIGERCEM), Nkalagu.

Col. Lambert Ihenacho, chairman Nigercem management board told newsmen at the Enugu Press Centre that the supply of coal, which the company uses for firing kilns, became unsteady as from July 30, this year, thereby posing great danger to the continued survival of the company.

According to Col. Ihenacho, investigation on the reasons for the disruptions in the supply of coal by the Nigerian Coal Corporation, revealed that the shortage was due to the scramble for coal for export to parties who were now preferred by the coal corporation.

He declared, "apart from the fact that this coal burns spontaneously thereby endangering plant, equipment and human life, it is also self-consuming, and to add to this problem the supply has become irregular".

The chairman disclosed that arrangement for a stop-gap supply from Enugu coal mines had been reached with the coal corporation.

"This has sustained us, but the future is not bright as we can be grounded any moment from now unless the coal

corporation takes positive steps to expand the mines to accommodate the new export customers".

Col. Ihenacho further said that import licence allocation to NIGERCEM has never been enough. In 1985, he said only N3 million was received by the company, adding "this meant that all the materials required for reactivation could not be ordered".

Not only that, "even within the limit of our import licence we were unable to take delivery of spares worth 700,000 pounds sterling for lack of confirmation of letter of credit by overseas banks".

However, the chairman said that the company has been supplementing as much as possible with local spares and materials made at Aladja Steel Company, Nigerian Railway Corporation, PRODA, and the Nigerian Paper Mill, Jebba.

Col. Ihenacho announced that the NIGERCEM has succeeded in finding local source of gypsum which is only imported material in the production of cement.

Commenting on the

company's cash flow problem, the chairman said that because of the cash requirement to purchase spare parts, raw materials, and at the same time, meet other day-to-day needs, the company continued to accept payment for cement even though there were customers whose deposits were yet to be supplied.

According to him, "it is estimated that within the next five months, the company would require about N16 million to import materials and spares and purchase vital equipment.

On communication, Col. Ihenacho regretted that NIGERCEM was now almost cut-off from the outside world by bad road leading to the factory. Although the federal government ministry of works promised to repair the road, he said, "up to now, nothing has happened".

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CSO: 3400/40

NIGERIA

NEW POWER STATION TO BE BUILT AT OJI RIVER, ANAMBRA

Enugu DAILY STAR in English 5 Sep 86 p 1

[Article by Ikechukwu Ani and Tony Enem]

[Text]

THE Federal Military Government has given approval for the building of a 120-megawatts, modern power station at Oji River, Anambra State.

This project, which would cost the government between N200 million and N1,000 million is said to be cheaper than the envisaged cost of reactivation of the Oji River power station, commissioned in 1956 by Queen Elizabeth the Second.

Briefing the press yesterday, in Oji River, the director of distribution, eastern region of the National Electric Power Authority, (NEPA), Mr G.A. Ndubuaku, said that "immediately the new station goes into operation, the present Oji River Power Station will be demolished".

Mr Ndubuaku contended that the cost of reactivating the present station would far exceed the amount needed for the building of a new one, adding that the technology of the present station was different and outdated.

He disclosed that the spare parts needed for its reactivation could not be manufactured and said that if people were specially commissioned to produce them, one by one, it would cost much "since most of them are now obsolete".

The director also argued that the boilers now used to activate the coal to produce fire had become difficult to operate.

Mr Ndubuaku noted that before all the spare parts required for the reactivation of the station could be assembled, it would have been easier to build an entirely new power station. According to him, "it is more economical to build a new power station than reactivating the old one".

The station manager of the Oji River power station, Mr Anthony Ogbolu, however, said that the station, established with 30-megawatts capacity, had gone down to only five megawatts and could no longer serve its increasing consumers.

Mr Ogbolu explained that power demand had exploded, thereby creating more responsibility for the National Electric Power Authority. He confirmed that the new station would be sited at Oji River and would still use coal.

The station manager who conducted newsmen round the power station, also said that regular supply of coal required for the energising of power has been difficult.

At Onitsha Transmission Station, the chief engineer, Mr O.N. Wachukwu, disclosed that only three power stations in Nigeria were hydro-

operated. Those stations, he said, were the Kainji Dam, Niger State; Shiroro power station in Kaduna and Jebba station in Kwara State.

Mr Wachukwu emphasised that the hydro stations use water as a means of obtaining energy, adding that they do not require fuel or raw material to feed the plant.

The thermal stations which he said were operated with coal are located in Oji River, Anambra State; Ughelli and Sapele, Bendel State; Afam, Rivers and two stations in Lagos.

The chief engineer told the pressmen who were on a facility visit to NEPA installations in the state, that the Onitsha transmission station acts as a gate-way to power from Bendel, Benue, Imo, Cross River, Gongola and Anambra states.

The NEPA week continues today with "a consumers' day" at Onitsha. The Enugu day comes up tomorrow.

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CSO: 3400/40

NIGERIA

ROLE OF RIVER BASIN AUTHORITIES DISCUSSED

Lagos DAILY TIMES in English 22 Sep 86 p 23

[Text] **T**HE former Minister of Agriculture, Water Resources and Rural Development, Lt.-Gen. Alani Akinrinade (Rtd), said yesterday in Lagos that the Federal Government has committed over N2 billion to the development of river basin authorities in the country.

Lt.-Gen. Akinrinade, who was answering questions on a Radio Lagos programme, the "News-maker", recorded before his redeployment to the Ministry of Industries, said that although there was a big justification for the huge investment the government had "gone a little overboard" in failing to restrict them to the harnessing of the country's water resources for agricultural development.

The minister said that in fairness to critics of the river basin authorities, it must be admitted that they should have been "divorced completely" from actual involvement in farming.

He said that the establishment originally was due to the wrong concept that they should be synonymous with states, adding that those who planned them failed to realise that "rivers are no respecters of state boundaries".

Gen. Akinrinade said that although the present military administration had reduced the number to 11, four would have been adequate, but for the consideration that the authorities would be "too cumbersome and administratively unwieldy" if restricted to such a small number.

The minister agreed that the river basin authorities have been more successful in the northern parts of the country than in the south, saying that northerners were more willing to vacate their land since water was not easily accessible in most northern states and the people appreciated the role the authorities played in harnessing the available water for agricultural development.

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CSO: 3400/40

NIGERIA

WEATHER RADAR INSTALLED AT KANO AIRPORT

Kano THE TRIUMPH in English 12 Sep 86 pp 1,2

[Article by Olu Ojewale]

[Text]

A METEOROLOGICAL Weather Radar, capable of detecting and Warning about impending severe thunderstorms that might destroy property and paralyse economic life was commissioned at the Mallam Aminu Kano International Airport, Kano yesterday.

In his address at the occasion, the Minister of Transport and Aviation, Brigadier J.T. Useni whose address was read by the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry, Mr. D.A. Anumudu, said the weather radar which cost the government N439,608.56 would cover a 450 kilometres radius from Kano.

He said that the new equipment would provide accurate weather forecasts for the general public, aviation, agriculture, hydrology

and water resources.

The radar would also be able to warn aircraft in flight about any severe weather en route, he emphasised.

The minister further said the radar would monitor the development of weather at sea and other remote places where observatories were not available.

Brigadier Useni who traced the history of how the idea of the radar was born, said this was when the ones installed in 1958 at Kano and Ikeja got spoilt.

The new equipment, the minister said, was the EEC type 74C, with an operational frequency of 5600-5650 Mega Hertz with a peak power of 250 kilowatts.

He pointed out that the aim of the project was to cover the whole country with weather surveillance radars of wider beam

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CSO: 3400/40

NIGERIA

KADUNA, WARRI PETROCHEMICAL PLANTS DELAYED

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 20 Sep 86 p 12

[Article by Andrew Isibor]

[Text]

PLAN by the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation, (NNPC), to put the petro-chemical plants at Kaduna and Warri into production next year has run into a hitch.

The NNPC said it had been unable to bring in necessary materials on schedule with import licences not valid for foreign exchange nor been able to revalidate expired import licences by which letters of credit were established and materials ordered.

It said because of these problems, three ships loaded with materials for the plants have been held up at the wharf attracting demurrage.

According to an NNPC bulletin when the petrol chemical plants at Kaduna and Warri go into production it would mark Nigeria's entry into the club of petro-chemical producers and represent an important mile-stone in the nation's industrial development.

The petro-chemical complex at Ekpan, Warri comprised two plants. The carbon black plant designed to produce five grades of carbon black of 18,000 metric tonnes annually and the

polypropylene plant to produce in the first instance nine grades of polypropylene with a total capacity of 35,000 metric tonnes a year.

The Kaduna plant would produce 30,000 tonnes of a major input for the manufacture of detergent a year.

It would also produce 2,700 tonnes a year of heavy alkylate, 38,000 metric tonnes of the deparafinated kero solvent and 15,000 metric tonnes of benzene which are used for, among other things, transformer oil, insecticides and solvents.

The NNPC said the two plants could not meet national demands but stressed the need to complement the plants' production for sometime to come with importation.

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NIGERIA

BRIEFS

VIGILANTE GROUPS APPROVAL--Communities wishing to embark on the formation of vigilante groups in Ondo State to check crime received the blessing of law-enforcement agents in the state yesterday. Such groups would be provided with policing to assist in ensuring security of the people in the areas concerned. In addition, they are free to contact the police on its two hot line telephones just installed at the state police headquarters in Akure. The state police boss, Mr. David Isang gave the go ahead while speaking with newsmen in his office yesterday. Mr Isang said he had spoken to several traditional rulers on the issue but was surprised that there had been no positive results. "If the formation of vigilante groups is an offence in any other part of the country, it is no illegal here", Mr Isang had said. He then urged the people of the state to provide useful information to police in order to arrest criminals within the society. [Text][Lagos DAILY TIMES in English 28 Aug 86 p 12]/12828

STATE BOUNDARIES DEMARCATION--State boundaries are to be demarcated, Commodore Ebitu Ukiwe announced in Lagos yesterday. He said the Federal Department of Surveys had been directed to gear up efforts to demarcate the boundaries so as to minimise the perennial inter-state boundary disputes. He said some progress had been made in this regard adding that a joint meeting of officials of the Federal Ministry of Works and Housing and the representatives of Cross River and Imo states was held in May this year to finalise arrangement for the survey and demarcation of the boundary between Imo and Cross River states. Commodore Ukiwe also said work had commenced on the delimitation of the boundary between Benue and Plateau states. He said work would soon commence on the survey and demarcation of Anambra and Benue states boundary. The Chief of General Staff told media executives that work was also in progress to solve the boundary problem between Benue and Kwara as well as Ondo and Kwara states. He assured that other states boundary problem would be tackled in similar manner in due course. [Text][Lagos DAILY TIMES in English 23 Aug 86 pp 1, 3]/12828

AGRICULTURAL PROJECTS CANCELLED--The new management committee for Etsako Local Government area of Bendel State has cancelled the N1,365,000 Agro-Teck projects, planned for the area five years ago. Of this amount a sum of N849,950 has so far been spent on the three chosen projects whose infrastructures were still "just at foundation levels", the chairman for the management committee, Mr. Ojebor Ibilibor, hinted in Auchi yesterday.

According to the chairman, the remaining amount from the approved estimate was only ₦515,050, "an amount which, he said, was too meagre to complete the remaining parts of the three projects". The three projects chosen by Etsako Local Government area in 1982 were a gari industry planned for Okpella in Okpella clan, bread industry at Afashio in Uzairue clan and the poultry industry at Agbede in Ayeuele clan. For the gari industry at Okepella, it was shown that ₦425,000 was allocated out of which ₦260,000 had already been spent. For the bread industry at Afashio, ₦440,000 was approved and ₦275,000 was spent and for the Agbede poultry for which ₦500,000 was earmarked, ₦314,950 had been expended. According to Mr. Ibilbor, the decision by his committee to cancel the over one million naira projects was viewed against the background of the present economic situation in the country. "The Agro-Teck projects have become unpopular and the public now seen them as sources of siphoning away money to feather some people's nests", the council chairman explained. [Text][Lagos DAILY TIMES in English 5 Sep 86 p 13]/12828

INDIAN AID WITH AGRO-INDUSTRIES--The Birla Group of India in conjunction with the Rivers State Government, plans to establish agro-based industries, whose raw materials are locally available in the state. The Rivers State commissioner for commerce and industry, Mr Johnson Emere Dibia, made this known in his office, when a team of experts from Birla Group of India called on him. Mr Dibia thanked the team for the co-operation which showed the mutual relationship between the Indian government and the state government. He advised the team to ensure necessary feasibility studies of the proposed small-scale industries. Mr Dibia told them that such industries should be export-oriented, so as to yield more revenue for the state. The leader of the team, Mr M.L. Pachisia, assured the commissioner that the industries, when fully established, would go a long way in revamping the state economy and that of the country, in general. [Text][Enugu DAILY STAR in English 23 Aug 86 p 2]/12828

FUNDS TO AID EXPORTS--The Federal Military Government has established three special funds to boost the country's export trade. The funds which are contained in the latest federal government Gazette are Export Expansion Grant Fund and Export Adjustment Fund. The decree establishing the Export Development Fund provides that the fund shall be used to provide financial assistance to private sector and exporting companies to cover part of their initial expenses in respect of export promotion activities. Under the decree, the trustees of the fund shall consist of a representative of the Nigeria Export Promotion Council as chairman with one member drawn from Ministries of Finance, Trade, Industries, National Planning and Manufacturers Association of Nigeria (MAN and Chambers of Commerce. The decrees states that it shall be the duty of the trustees of the fund to disburse and issue guidelines for its operation. The Export Adjustment Fund shall serve as a supplementary export subsidy or an additional fund for dealing with high costs of production arising mainly from infrastructural deficiencies. [Text][Enugu DAILY STAR in English 25 Aug 86 p 16]/12828

KANO WATER SALE CANCELLED--The Kano State Water Resources and Engineering Construction Agency (WRECA), has suspended indefinitely its decision to reintroduce water selling stations in the state. This followed a directive from the new Military Governor of the State, Wing Commander Mohammed Umaru. In a press briefing by the WRECA Managing Director Engineer Magaji Abdullahi, it was revealed that the new Military Governor has asked the WRECA to stop the action, because the bulk of the public stand pipe water consumers, are at the bottom of the economic ladder in the society. Engineer Magaji said the new military dispensation also feels that in view of the present economic situation in the country particularly in the rural areas, such consumers might be hard pressed. Therefore, all preparations towards the establishment of the water selling stations is henceforth stopped, he added. The Managing Director also said all potential water vendors who purchased forms from the WRECA revenue department will be refunded their money. [Text][Kano THE TRIUMPH in English 9 Sep 86 p 16]/12828

BISHOPS CRITICIZE BIRTH CONTROL MEASURES--Catholic Bishops in Nigeria have called for a review of the current campaign for population control in the country, a communique issued at the end of their second plenary meeting at Ede in Oyo State disclosed last week. The communique said that it was unfortunate that pills and injections as well as other contraceptive devices, which had been banned and declared unfit in other countries, were being freely used in Nigeria. The Bishops urged Nigerians not to accept a programme of population control "that amounts to poisoning themselves", adding that they should rather adequately inform themselves about the efficacy of the alternatives to natural family planning methods. The communique commended the commitment of the present administration to return the country to civilian rule, but added that it needed to revive the nation "morally, spiritually and politically". On the economy, the Bishops called on the policy makers to ensure that whatever they did were for the needs and greater good of the vast majority of Nigerians. [Text][Kano THE TRIUMPH in English 15 Sep 86 p 12]/12828

BAUCHI PROJECTS DELAY--Out of the 52 million Naira earmarked for the execution of programmes under the Bauchi State integrated rural development programme this year, only six million Naira has so far been disbursed and spent on projects, Governor Chris Garuba has said. He told newsmen at a briefing to mark his government's one year in office on Wednesday that the low level of disbursement to the programme was due "to the prevailing economic situation which was not for seen when the budget was being prepared." Efforts were however, being made to generate more funds through levy and other sources, he said. Colonel Garuba said so far, the amount disbursed had gone into the construction of 300 kilometres of new roads, and the rehabilitation of 1,500 kilometres of others, while 898 kilometres of roads were constructed through communal efforts. He said 560 kilometres of roads were set for construction this year and about 1,800 kilometres earmarked for rehabilitation and repairs. Colonel Garuba said four contracts had been awarded for the reactivation, commissioning and drilling of 230 boreholds in 212 towns and villages throughout the state, in addition to the 250 boreholds to be drilled by the Directorate of Food, Roads and Rural Infrastructure. The governor said 18 towns in the state were now enjoying

electricity supply for between 12 and 16 hours a day and that various contracts awarded or to be awarded under the electrification programme of the authority would ensure that 63 towns and villages would be electrified under the programme which he described as a feat "unprecedented since the creation of the state in 1976".[Text][Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 13 Sep 86 p 16]/12828

OIL RESERVES EVALUATION CENTER--The NNPC has started to estimate the crude oil in 1,600 wells in 145 oilfields to determine the country's reserves of hydrocarbons, the oil and gas sector co-ordinator, Mr. Gbadebo Adesemowo, has said in Benin. He told newsmen that an American consulting agency, Mccrod Lewis Energy Services, had already undertaken an evaluation study of about 600 wells in 15 fields between 1984 and last year, adding that the current evaluation would last about two years. Mr Adesemowo said the NNPC had earlier set up a national hydrocarbon reserves evaluation committee charged with preparing the groundwork for computing an acceptable system for determining the country's hydrocarbon reserves. He said based on the recommendations of the committee and the consultants, the NNPC had built evaluation centre in Benin. The sector co-ordinator further said the petroleum corporation would urge its joint venture partners in the country to streamline their oil reserve computation system at the corporation's evaluation centre. He said that technical systems being used by the oil producing companies were open to manipulations, pointing out that any variation in the "input parameters" used by companies could result in significant differences in reserves results. Mr. Adesemowo said another unit of the NNPC, data processing centre would save the country substantial foreign exchange, adding that Shell Petroleum Development Company (Nigeria) Ltd., had saved the country between six and 10 million dollars annually by establishing a seismic data processing centre. Answering questions, the sector co-ordinator said the NNPC had not made any significant oil discoveries since last year, but pointed out that the tempo of oil exploration in the country had been stable at about 60 per cent to 70 per cent. He said he would not support the recycling of the country's natural gas, estimated at 150 trillion standard cubic feet, because the local utilisation of the resource had not been maximised. The Chief of Genral Staff, Commodore Ebitu Ukiwe, is expected to declare open the reserves evaluation centre tomorrow. [Text][Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 15 Sep 86 pp 1, 3]/12828

YOLA FLOUR MILL PROJECT--The United Bank for Africa Limited, recently led a consortium of six banks to provide a N13.65 million loan to the Inter-State Flour Mills Limited based in Yola, Gongola State. The Mill, which is dually equipped to process wheat grains and home-grown grains such as maize and sorghum, on completion, will produce 200 metric tonnes of flour per day. Speaking at a ceremony at which officials of the consortium-banks formally signed a contract for the loan, UBA's Executive Director (Corporate Resources Sector), Mr. O. Sarumi, representing the Managing Director & Chief Executive, Alhaji U.A. Mutallah, said that Inter-State Flour Mill is the first of its kind in the country. Mr. Sarumi said that what constitutes the strongest recommendation in favour of Inter-State Flour Mills Limited is its duality. "Unlike the existing flour mills in Nigeria, the viability of this flour mill need not be chained to the availability of wheat, imported or otherwise. The mill will produce wheat flour and switch over to the processing of local grains. [Text][Lagos BUSINESS TIMES in English 22 Sep 86 p 3]/12828

PASSPORT VALIDITY EXTENSION--The validity of Nigerian passports has again been extended from two to five years by the Federal Government. A directive to this effect which became effective from last month has been communicated to all passport offices in the 19 states of the Federation. Also notified are Nigerian embassies, high commissions and consular offices in foreign countries. A top official at the Federal Passport Office in Lagos told the Daily Times that the extension took effect from August 22. In January 1984, the ousted Buhari/Idiagbon administration placed embargo on the renewal of old and issuance of new Nigerian passports indefinitely. An official notice then by the Internal Affairs Ministry directed that all issuance of passports should be suspended while those brought for renewal should be withheld. However, the embargo was lifted on December 28, 1985, and the validity of passports which used to be five years was reduced to two years. A senior passport official confirmed the story of the extension of the validity of Nigerian passport from two to five years. Last July, Col. Shagaya refuted reports that Nigerian diplomatic missions were under instructions not to issue or renew passports for Nigerians resident outside the country. He said following incessant reports of loss of passports by Nigerian students abroad, the ministry found out that many students had been selling their passports to foreign nationals particularly those from the neighbouring countries. The minister said these Nigerians went back to the missions to report that their passports were lost or stolen and subsequently succeeded in obtaining new ones. [Excerpt][Lagos DAILY TIMES in English 18 Sep 86 p 2]/12828

QUOTA SYSTEM IN MILITARY--The quota system of recruitment into the Nigerian Army does not affect the performance of officers in training, Major-General Paul Omu has declared in Lagos. Major-General Paul Omu who is the commandant of the Command and Staff College, Jaji, told airport correspondents that the quota system of recruitment was entrenched in the constitution and has nothing to do with performance of officers in training. He emphasised that the quota system has not been abused in the Command and Staff College, Jaji. Major-General Paul Omu argued that the size of the army is not large compared to the size of the population of the country. According to him, retention of a large army in peace time was necessary because "you have to train your men in peace time and do not have to wait until you have a war before you start to train your men". Further justifying the large size of the army under economic recession, Major-General Paul Omu said training of soldiers is a continuous exercise even though in a poor economy there were bound to be some constraints. The commandant noted that diversification of military establishments was not possible because of geographical constraints and use of long range weapons. [Text][Enugu DAILY STAR in English 28 Aug 86 p 1]/12828

NAVAL OFFICER RETIREMENTS--Thirty-three senior naval officers have been retired from service. They include the former governor of Ondo State, Commodore Michael Bamidele Otiko, and Rear-Admiral Victor Oduwaiye, Director of Administration in the defunct Supreme Headquarters. Commodore Otiko's retirement took effect from November 1, 1985, while that of Rear-Admiral Oduwaiye took effect from January 1, this year. Captain M. Kentebe (widow of former chairman of the Nigerian Football Association, Edwin Kentebe)

and musicologist, Captain F. O. Bucknor were also on the list of those retired. Others on the retirement list in a government gazette just published, are Captain T. U. Odibo (December 1, 1985), Commodore R. A. Oke (December 1, 1985), Commander J. R. T. Williams (December 1, 1985) Commander T. Alabi (December 1, 1985), Captain M. O. Agbe (July 1) Captain C. W. Ebere (July 1), Captain E. E. Nsa (July 1), and Commander O. R. Fumuyiwa (December 1, 1985). The gazette (Number 25, volume 73, July 17) also listed 89 commissioned Air Force Officers, the promotion of nine senior naval officers including the new Lagos State Governor, Mike Akhigbe, and the appointment of 30 others. [Text][Lagos DAILY TIMES in English 30 Aug 86 pp 1, 13]/12828

TRADE WITH USSR--Soviet Union is expected to import about 20,000 tonnes of cocoa beans worth over N69 million from Nigeria, this year. The news which is credited to the USSR Head of the Department of Foreign Trade, West Africa, Mr. Sergeu Lototsky is contained in the August edition of the United Bank of Africa monthly Economic and Business Digest. The digest also revealed that the Union of Soviet Socialist Republic (USSR), will in return export goods worth N200 million to Nigeria. The export goods would include machineries and spare parts for the Ajaokuta Steel Rolling Mill. According to Mr. Lototsky, over N300 million trade was recorded between Nigeria and USSR in 1984. The bulk of the USSR's import from Nigeria was cocoa beans, while in 1985, the trade dropped to about N270 million still with cocoa as the major article of trade. [Excerpt][Lagos DAILY TIMES in English 6 Sep 86 p 7]/12828

BULGARIAN LOAN FOR ELECTRIFICATION--The Federal Government has been granted a N50 million loan by Bulgaria for rural electrification. Also, another loan worth N67 million is expected from German Democratic Republic GDR for the same purpose. The Minister of Mines, Power and Steel, Professor Tam-West disclosed these while answering reporters questions during the opening of the NEPA week in Lagos. The minister said that the government has not abandoned the project and that it would continue soon. The NEPA general manager, Malam Ahmed Tukur said that the N250 million rural electrification project which started four years ago was stopped for some reasons. He said that nine out of the fourteen contracts awarded under the project were revoked. He revealed that a review exercise is almost completed for the contract to be re-awarded. Professor David-West had earlier revealed that the authority's power output presently stands at about 1,760 MW, which he said was a significant improvement over the 900 MW, in 1984. [Text][Lagos DAILY TIMES in English 3 Sep 86 p 24]/12828

PROBLEMS OF SPAREPARTS PRODUCTION--The inability to produce local components and spare parts for automobile industry is not the fault of motor assembly plants in the country. Anambra Motor Manufacturing Company (ANAMMCO Managing Director, Mr. Juergen Wagner made this clarification in Lagos during the celebration marking the 100 years of Automobile Daimler Benz. Mr. Wagner identified lack of infrastructure, low scale of production, inflation and over-valuation of the naira as some of the conditions that mitigate against local production of components and spare parts for the automobile industry. He said that the so-called supply of local raw materials to automobile industry was mere window-dressing because the batteries, the tyres, the

paints and glasses supplied are not produced in Nigeria. "All they do for things as glass is to import and cut and bend into shapes all in the name of local content. Both the battery and the casings are imported". He said the main reason for this is because fabrication of components and spare parts depends on petro-chemical and steel industries. Mr. Wagner noted that even though the country export crude oil, some quantity of gasoline are still being imported while flat steel and metal bares are still to be produced locally [Excerpt][Lagos SUNDAY TIMES in English 21 Sep 86 p 3]/12828

PEUGEOT PRODUCTION INCREASE PLANS--Peugeot Automobile Nigeria Limited (PAN) plans to invest about N128 million in projects designed to increase its local content input and production level. The United Bank for Africa monthly Economic Digest for August which revealed the news was quoting the company's bi-monthly journal "PANNEWS". According to the digest, the company is to spend about N68 million in establishing a stamping plant that would enable the level of production to rise from the present 264 to 300 per day. The remaining N60 million is to be invested in setting up a press shop and 15 other projects all in an effort to raise the percentage of locally supplied components of its vehicle to 65 per cent by 1990. According to PANNEWS which was quoting the company's managing director, Daniel Lange, the value of PAN's fixed assets has soared from N10 million to N98 million between 1975 and 1986. Within the same period, the company's turn-over has increased from N88 million to N457 million. Mr. Lange, according to PANNEWS, blamed the high price of cars produced by the company on taxes and duties imposed on completely knocked down parts (CKD) by the Federal Government. [Excerpt][Lagos DAILY TIMES in English 6 Sep 86 p 7]/12828

AUTO PRODUCTION INADEQUACY--The federal government will not allow the flooding of Nigerian market with imported cars, even though the few assembly plants are unable to cope with the demand for cars. The minister for industries, Alhaji Bunu Sheriff Musa, who declared this stand in an interview at the State House on Thursday, noted that it would not be realistic to allow car importers to flood the market simply because car prices were rising or because cars had become scarce. He had been asked to state what steps the federal government was taking to arrest the galloping price of cars in the market. Alhaji Musa was attending the Council of Ministers meeting at Dodan Barracks, presided over by the Chief-of-General Staff, Commodore Ebitu Ukiwe, as the president who normally presided over such meetings, was away on leave. The minister who noted that the rising prices of cars were a factor resulting from low production, said that government was doing everything possible to see that the assembly plants increased their production level. He was emphatic that, with the assembly plants, Nigerians would acquire the necessary know-how to go into car production in the future. Alhaji Musa was optimistic that this would happen, when the flat sheet plant begins production at Ajaokuta, because Nigerians would have acquired the necessary capability through the assembly plants. [Excerpt][Enugu DAILY STAR in English 13 Sep 86 p 1]/12828

ARMY PREPAREDNESS SAID 'IMPROVED'--Chief of Army Staff, Major-General Sani Abacha, has said that the state of preparedness of the army had improved considerably within the limits of our resources. He said at the finals of the "Counterstroke" army exercise at Kachia, Kaduna State yesterday that the exercise had witnessed a remarkable improvement since when it was held last, adding that by the standard demonstrated the gunners have achieved a high level of professionalism. General Abacha enjoined officers and soldiers to maintain and improve the standard even though the current financial situation might not provide all the army needed. He also enjoined them to improvise wherever possible adding that unit and sub-unit training should be given the emphasis it deserved, especially in these lean times. The Chief of Army Staff said he was aware of the lack of towing vehicles and some ancillaries for the new 155mm guns but gave assurances that plans were at hand to provide them. He advised them to make maintenance and accountability their guiding principle when the items were received and for those already in their possession. Operation "Counterattack" involved the usual military exercise of heavy weapons. The Chief of Army Staff participated in the exercise. It was attended by the governors of Kaduna, Sokoto, Benue and Bauchi states. [Text][Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 13 Sep 86 p 3]/12828

CSO: 3400/41

ZAIRE

BRIEFS

COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH BELGIUM--Zaire and Belgium have eliminated their misunderstanding by preparing a judicial cooperation agreement, according to Jean Gol, Belgian vice prime minister, minister of justice and constitutional reform. The Belgian vice prime minister, who was just received by (Citizen Kimi Kassingba), first vice president of the permanent bureau of the MPR Central Committee, specified that the problem of the status of Belgian lawyers practising in Zaire and that of Zairian lawyers practising in Belgium has been solved. Concerning the present state of the Zairian economy, the Belgian vice prime minister stated that the political and economic stability of Zaire is in the interest of the Western countries. To this end, all Zaire's external partners, Mr Gol stated, must make it a point to help this country so that it can maintain its economic stability. The Belgian vice prime minister leaves Kinshasa today at the end of his 1-week official visit to Zaire. [Text]
[Kinshasa Domestic Service in French 0600 GMT 5 Oct 86] /9599

CSO: 3400/150

ZIMBABWE

MINISTER CRITICIZES REAGAN VETO OF SANCTIONS BILL

MB301741 Harare Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 30 Sep 86

[Text] Several cabinet ministers, government officials, and members of the diplomatic corps today attended a reception in Harare to mark the 20th independence anniversary of Botswana. The acting minister of foreign affairs, Comrade Maurice Nyagumbo, said Zimbabwe will never abandon the principal policy of solidarity with the ANC, PAC [Pan-Africanist Congress] and SWAPO in their just struggle, despite the Pretoria regime's destabilization policy.

Comrade Nyagumbo expressed the hope that the international community, especially Western countries, will appreciate the urgency of the need to impose comprehensive mandatory sanctions against the apartheid state. The minister condemned the untenable position of some Western allies of South Africa, which for their own selfish ends continue to provide protection for apartheid and disregard the horrendous consequences for the region as a whole. Comrade Nyagumbo expressed disappointment with President Reagan's decision to veto a sanctions bill, which will have made a modest contribution to the international campaign against apartheid.

He said it is gratifying to note that the relations and cooperation between the two countries, which dates back to the time of Zimbabwe's liberation struggle, continues to stand and to be consolidated.

The Botswana high commissioner to Zimbabwe, Mr Phineas Makepe, said although Botswana does not have the capacity to impose sanctions on the racist regime, it fully support countries which are in favor of imposing them against South Africa. Mr Makepe called for the release of all political prisoners, the lifting of banning orders on individuals and organizations.

/6662

CSO: 3400/104

ZIMBABWE

HERALD ATTACKS REAGAN 'DIPLOMATIC SNUB'

MB291707 Harare THE HERALD in English 23 Sep 86

[Editorial: "Reagan's Snub"]

[Text] Given his negative postures in the Middle East, Central America, and southern Africa in particular, it could have been almost predictable that President Ronald Reagan would turn down the invitation by the Frontline States for him to visit the region with a view of finding a solution to the political problems of southern Africa caused by the apartheid regime.

In these areas of conflict and strife the Reagan administration has consistently sought the destruction of all that is progressive and humane, in favour of retrogressive, oppressive and all other forces of brutality.

Hence in the Middle East the U.S. seeks to strengthen the Zionist State of Israel against the legitimate aspirations of the dispossessed people of Palestine.

In Central America, Washington seeks to bring back to power the criminal elements which formerly supported the sanguinary regime of Anastasio Somoza, while in southern Africa "constructive engagement" was the camouflage for President Reagan's policy of strengthening the apartheid regime against the Frontline States.

The policy culminated in the encouragement given to the Mozambicans by Washington to sign the Nkomati Accord, which South Africa never honoured, and the decision to supply arms to the South Africa-backed UNITA bandits to fight against the Angolan Government

What had raised hopes regarding the invitation to President Reagan by the chairman of the Frontline States, President Kenneth Kaunda, was the Frontline heads of state's offer to visit Washington to talk to Mr Reagan should he not be prepared to visit southern Africa.

But President Reagan has now turned that offer down. The reason for this can only be that he has no serious intention to contribute positively to the solution of the southern African crisis.

It shows that Washington has not the slightest intention of altering its policies and schemes in the region and that President Reagan does not want these policies to be tampered with or watered down by any reasoning or logic which the leaders of the Frontline States might place before him.

This then raises the question why the U.S. secretary of state, George Shultz, is coming here?

The only answer to that is that the U.S. secretary of state is coming to talk to the Frontline States individually with the hope of dividing them to enhance President Reagan's conduct of support for South Africa's policies of destabilisation in the region.

In the face of President Reagan's diplomatic snub to the Frontline States, who were massively supported by the eighth summit of NAM in their opposition to the apartheid regime, it is difficult to treat Mr Shultz's proposed visit seriously.

President Reagan's refusal to meet the Frontline States shows his southern African policies are deliberately conceived.

It escapes no one's notice that while the President of the United States is not willing to meet the authentic leaders of this region, he recently rolled out the red carpet for the leader of the UNITA bandits and ally of President Botha, Jonas Savimbi, and gave him a reception usually reserved for a head of state.

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CS0: 3400/104

ZIMBABWE

CHURCH CONFERENCE ON ANTIAPARTHEID MEASURES

MB241406 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1357 GMT 24 Sep 86

[Text] Harare, 24 Sep (SAPA)--Presbyterian churchmen meeting in Harare have included support for selective sanctions and disinvestment among measures the denomination's 70,000 members throughout southern Africa could adopt to help end apartheid. However, a tenuous reference to a possible economic boycott of South Africa was counter-balanced--or contradicted--by an unequivocal call to the church to encourage "those who are striving to maintain or to create employment opportunities."

Presbyterians have been urged by the traditionally conservatively-minded church to consider participation in civil disobedience, joining in consumer boycotts, or refusing to serve in the South African Defence Force, but the general theme of resolutions adopted at its general assembly in Harare this week was reconciliation and communication.

The 150 delegates from South Africa, Zimbabwe and Zambia resolved to send a message to the state president, Mr P.W. Botha, and the minister of law and order, Mr Louis le Grange, expressing dismay at indiscriminate arrests which had netted respected members of the Presbyterian Church, and also at recent security legislation reducing the power of the courts. The message voiced concern at the South African Government's alleged failure to "address the real causes of the country's problems," concluding with a call for a firm undertaking to dismantle apartheid totally.

Other resolutions adopted urged support for detainees, participation in the End Conscription Campaign, and less harsh treatment conscientious objectors.

The assembly urged the South African Government to permit all who object to wearing uniform to complete a maximum of 4 years alternative service with religious or welfare organisations. Religious convictions should not be the sole ground for conscientious objection. The assembly also demanded reduction in the period of imprisonment that can be imposed on an objector.

The assembly adopted a resolution urging "critical consideration" of the Kairos document drawn up mainly by black theologians, and of the Presbyterian Church's "relationship to the struggle for liberation." This was the nearest the church has so far come to any expression of understanding for the stance of the African National Congress and Pan Africanist Congress. Delegates pointedly dropped earlier plans to resolve that they "cannot endorse the call for uncritical solidarity with the liberation movements contained in Chapter Five of the Kairos document."

But a Presbyterian report on "Church and Nation in South Africa," endorsed by the assembly, says that although the document contains "many profound and true things" about modern South Africa, it falls into "self-righteousness" by seeing those who fight for liberation as "absolutely good" and those who oppress as "absolutely evil." "The document thus opens the door to that self-righteous fanaticism which regards one's enemies as God's enemies, so that any measures against them are justified. The Bible has in the past been twisted to support the anti-Christian ideology of apartheid. Let us beware of twisting it now to make it something that backs political fanaticism on the other side," the report warns.

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CSO: 3400/83

ZIMBABWE

BRIEFS

SECURITY CHECKS ON RETURNING RESIDENTS--The government has announced that it will now conduct thorough investigations on returning residents before their applications to stay in the country can be considered. The minister of home affairs, Comrade Enos Nkala, said the returnees must have security checks before they can be readmitted to Zimbabwe. He said the new regulations also require that the returnees show proof of their means of sustenance on returning to Zimbabwe. The minister said because Zimbabwe has an obligation to protect itself, returning residents will continue to be monitored by the state security in order to prove that they are not a security risk. He said, however, that those with special skills and those bringing back assets and foreign currency will have a sympathetic hearing. [Text] [Harare Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT [no date given]] /9604

GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE FOR FARMERS--The prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, has said farmers should not regard their farms as symbols of prestige, but should use them productively for the benefit of the nation. He was officially opening the 37th annual conference of the Zimbabwe National Farmers Union in Mutare today. Comrade Mugabe urged the farmers to play their useful role in the fulfillment of the objectives of the 5-year national development plan. He said the farmers' contribution to the plan will be judged by the (?real) extent of their involvement in the development projects. He assured them that the government will continue to create conditions for expanded production in commodities, which are of specific importance to the country. In this regard, the prime minister said provision of a sound infrastructure, such as water storage and marketing facilities, will be proffered for all categories of farmers. [Text] [Harare Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 24 Sep 86] /9604

EEC FUNDS FOR BEIRA CORRIDOR--Public and private sector groups involved in the development and rehabilitation of the Beira Corridor need financial assistance to complete the project. THE HERALD newspaper reports that the chairman of the Beira Corridor project, Mr Dennis Norman, has revealed that the EEC's corridor group--Denmark and the Netherlands--have pledged more than \$100 million. About \$280 million is needed for total completion of the project. [Text] [Harare Domestic Service in Ndebele 0700 GMT 23 Sep 86] /9604

MUGABE HAILS BOTSWANA RELATIONS--The prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, has sent a congratulatory message to the Botswana president, Dr Quett Masire, on that country's 20th independence anniversary. Comrade Mugabe said the past 20 years have witnessed a steady and sustained improvement in the social and economic welfare of the Botswana people as a result of commendable progress in developing various sectors of the national economy. The prime minister said these admirable achievements have been accomplished in times when Botswana made great sacrifices in support of the Zimbabwean liberation struggle and the continued struggle in South Africa and Namibia. He reaffirmed Zimbabwe's solidarity with Botswana, and said he is confident that the excellent ties of friendship and cooperation between the two countries will continue in the years ahead. [Text] [Harare Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 30 Sep 86 MB] /6662

CONSTRUCTION OF GOLD REFINERY ANNOUNCED--The Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe has announced the construction of a gold refinery in the country. A statement issued by the bank today says the decision was taken after consultations with the government. The move is aimed at reducing dependence on other countries where Zimbabwean gold is being processed. The statement added that an agreement has been reached with Australia to provide the required technical assistance, which includes the training facilities. [Text] [Harare Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 1 Oct 86 MB] /6662

CSO: 3400/104

SOUTH AFRICA

NEED FOR MORE ACCURACY IN BUREAU OF INFORMATION NOTED

Cape Town DIE BURGER in Afrikaans 30 Aug 86 p 8

[Article by Dawie under the "From My Political Pen" rubric: "Efforts at Information Show Failings: There Must Be Rapid Improvements"]

[Text] The political events of recent weeks have emphasized the need for the government to improve its efforts at information to a considerable extent.

This is necessary because, as has been pointed out in this column on many occasions, the propaganda battle is such a key aspect of the revolutionary attack that the government must fend off.

Soweto

Two events are particularly to the point: the new incidents of unrest in Soweto and the maneuvers whereby the opposition is threatening to make a farce out of Parliament.

In the case of Soweto, the Bureau of Information is directly involved, because since the proclamation of the state of emergency, it has been the authority that distributes all news on the incidents of unrest to the press.

Wednesday evening in its daily bulletin, the Bureau announced that 13 people had died in incidents of unrest in Soweto. That evening and the next morning, this was reported as an "official" figure of 13 deaths. But some morning papers reported on Thursday that 21 people were dead.

Thursday evening, Deputy Minister Mr Louis Nel officially confirmed on behalf of the government that "very probably" 21 people died in the most recent unrest in Soweto.

Pity

Newspapers that had accepted the casualty figure of 13 on Thursday were left looking foolish. It is little consolation that the Bureau also looked foolish.

What the incident demonstrated, however, was that the Bureau cannot provide as capable and reliable a service to the public as professional journalists do. It is simply not equipped for that.

The pity is that the credibility of the Bureau of Information, as well as that of the government, thus comes under fire--and this during a state of crisis in which credibility is of utmost importance. We have been warning about this from the very beginning.

It is questionable whether the newspapers that presented a casualty figure of 21 as early as Thursday morning were complying with the emergency regulations, which impose such strong restrictions on the press.

However, such newspapers will be able to defend themselves in any court with an argument that will definitely hold water, that they were acting in the public interest with an eye to the truth.

Election Fever

This type of situation leads to renewed doubt about the emergency regulations themselves--aside from the objections raised by the Bureau of Information concerning its ability to play an effective information role. But let us take a look at the other question.

An effective effort at information for the public appears to be just as necessary with regard to the events in Parliament, where opposition parties in the House of Assembly have begun a sort of game of "I-won't-talk-to-you." This is very odd for politicians, and will be interpreted by the country's enemies as a taint on Parliament.

The opposition is laying all the blame on the government, which supposedly does not have enough issues on its reform program to effectively continue this session.

How much does the apparent desire of the opposition parties to cut the session short instead have to do with the sudden outbreak of election fever?

After all, a group of opposition members of Parliament does appear anxious to return to their electoral districts. Even the Progressives are talking about taking over the government.

These members of Parliament probably reason that in their unsettled state, they have found a useful stick for hitting at the government, and they do not care about the harm that they are doing to the prestige of Parliament.

Intimidation

There may be reservations concerning whether there has always been effective liaison work on the part of the government in this question. But it must also be remembered that the reform process does not work like instant coffee.

For example, it will not be possible now to introduce one of the prime reform steps, the legislation on the planned National Council, during this session.

There are sound reasons for this, such as the fact that the preliminary negotiations took longer than was hoped, while the most serious inhibiting factor, the intimidation of leaders, is still present. It is not possible to act rashly and with excessive haste.

Chief Buthelezi himself witnesses to the unwillingness of "those who have chosen violence" to negotiate with Blacks who stand for non-violence.

Skill

All of these factors will simply have to be spelled out continually by the government. One example of this is the candid interview with Minister Chris Heunis that was published in today's newspaper.

It is indeed possible to rely on the intelligence of the public. But such an effort at information will require the most scrupulous attention and the best available skills.

It is a fact that democracy places strong demands on effective communication. Indeed, there is no alternative for assuring success against revolutionary forces that will surely destroy democratic freedoms.

12271

CSO: 3401/178

SOUTH AFRICA

OPPOSITION MOVE TOWARDS NON-COOPERATION CRITICIZED

Cape Town DIE BURGER in Afrikaans 29 Aug 86 p 18

[Editorial: "An Unfortunate Reaction"]

[Text] The reaction by opposition parties in the House of Assembly to end the cooperation of their whips with the whip of the governing party can be to no one's advantage, and will least of all contribute to the orderly organization of the business of Parliament.

Whatever reasons the opposition parties might have that are not essentially connected with them, nothing positive can be achieved by approaching things in this way. It almost appears to be a policy of boycott, and statements that are made outside the House of Assembly concerning debate inside it are somewhat reminiscent of extra-parliamentary maneuvers by Slabbert, Boraine and their kind.

This phenomenon is all the more unfortunate since it is happening at a stage in which the country's highest authoritative body must make decisions about trend-setting developments. One of the most important of these is the recommendation that all three houses of Parliament hold joint debates on certain issues.

The embroilment in the House of Assembly could to a certain extent push this important proposal into the background, which would detract from this new evidence of the viability and possibilities of renewal in the new constitutional system.

The successes that have been achieved thus far with the three-chamber Parliament and the willingness for renewal have inspired most of the participants with enough self-confidence and faith to convince them of the necessity of making it work.

The advantages associated with joint debates are obvious. This would assure a more efficient use of the time of ministers and members of Parliament. While in the past ministers have had to deal with second-reading debates in all three houses, they will now be able to handle this in one session. In this way, it will be possible to continue the development of better communications

and understanding between the various groups with which the establishment of the new system began and which has already yielded good fruits.

From the hubbub that the two far-rightist parties in the House of Assembly are kicking up against the measure, it appears that either they have not yet figured out that the whole idea behind the new system is cooperation and consensus and that confrontation and conflict are obsolete, or they are not capable of getting a grip on the new style.

The parliamentary system in South Africa must not suffer from the actions of politicians who do not understand how important it is that democracy be expanded effectively in this country.

12271

CSO: 3401/178

SOUTH AFRICA

JON QWELANE REPORTS ON BLACK SCHOOL CRISIS FOLLOWING DET CLOSURES

Various Problems Plague Black Education

Johannesburg THE SUNDAY STAR in English 21 Sep 86 p 12

[Article by Jon Qwelane]

[Text]

SINCE that afternoon in the mid-1950s when the then Minister of Native Education, Dr Hendrik Verwoerd, unveiled his plans for black education to a hushed Parliament many uncomplimentary adjectives have been used to describe the system.

Deep distrust has dogged black education, resulting in the upheavals of 1976 when hundreds of people — many of them children — were shot dead and many more injured.

Endemic class boycotts, examination boycotts, detentions of students and teachers and heavy criticism of the system have not made things easy for the education authorities or the pupils; confrontation is the order of the day.

Other factors contributing to the dismal performances at black schools are the syllabuses that educationists have condemned as being below those of white schools. The DET, however, says all State schools subscribe to the same core syllabus.

Many black teachers, themselves products of the "inferior" system of education for blacks, are not sufficiently qualified and the DET has admitted it employs "temporary" teachers.

In addition to insufficiently qualified staff, black schools must cope with overcrowded classrooms, although more schools have been built in the past few years and extensions made to existing ones.

The burden of providing textbooks falls on black parents who do not earn much money and, because often both parents work, no adult remains at home to ensure children do not dodge school.

The education of black children is not compulsory as it is for their white counterparts and no parent can be prosecuted for not sending his children to school. Also many parents have, over the years, said school fees are unaffordable.

There is also a yawning gap between State subsidies for black pupils and their white counterparts. In the 1983/84 financial year, for example, the State spent R1 654 on a white child at school and R234,45 on a black one.

Overcrowding in the townships has created problems for pupils and many have no room at home to study or do their homework in peace. Children are also expected to help with household chores.

Dr Ken Hartshorne of the Centre for Continuing Education at Wits said this week: "Regular learning habits (among black pupils) are breaking down; pupils do not bring books to school, are not prepared to do their homework or have their

work evaluated by means of tests and examinations."

Teachers hold a negative image of themselves, with morale and confidence at a low, he said.

Township life is another factor adversely affecting education.

Dr Hartshorne says: "In the townships there is a new generation of 'street children' led by young adults rejected by the education system, disillusioned by failure and lack of work opportunities."

Black schooling has also been plagued by leaks of examination papers for sale on the black market for anything between R15 and R50 a copy.

As early as 1978 Father Michael Barretta, headmaster of Christ the Priest Seminary near Groblersdal, began buying examination papers on the black market as part of an investigation into the leaks. His conclusion was that the papers were in the market long before the time of the examinations, and were leaked directly from the headquarters of the DET.

In 1981 the leaks reached a peak when Afrikaans, English, biology, history, mathematics and physical science papers were found selling at high prices all over the PWV complex and the East Rand.

Teachers at some schools began complaining that, at matric level, the DET had been downgrading marks to maintain a low pass rate among blacks. The complaints were supported by at least three script markers who said they were told by (white) chief examiners to "award low marks" to candidates.

The teachers and markers refused to give their names because they feared victimisation.

But an official of the regional office of DET at the time, Mr Jaap Strydom, said the allegations were "infamous lies". Some Soweto teachers, however, who also declined to be named, said that in some instances they were told to lower the marks to 52 percent. They said this had been going on as early as 1979.

More damning allegations were reported by a separate group of black script markers returning to Natal from Pretoria where they had marked thousands of papers

written by black matric candidates in 1984.

They claimed that white pupils — some as young as 16 years — were used to mark black candidates' scripts.

In some instances, the black markers claimed, white examiners used their relatives to mark scripts even when such people were only vaguely acquainted with what was involved. The allegations were denied by the DET.

In Soweto a group of headmasters, again declining to be named, said they had been called to a meeting in the township where an official of the DET ordered them to scale down the pass rates because there was not enough classroom accommodation in the next standard.

Last year Soweto high school headmasters surprised everyone when they decided to have nothing to do with the end-of-year examinations, saying they should be postponed to a later date. Matters came to a head with the DET.

The State of Emergency which was declared last year had a large bearing on the fiasco of last year's examinations: at one time 510 pupils were detained at the time of writing, allegedly for disrupting examinations, and only 10 percent of candidates in Soweto sat the papers.

Again the problem of leaks surfaced when a Bloemfontein court convicted a messenger of the DET for selling history and biology papers at R5 each to a schoolgirl, who disposed of them at R15 each.

The aborted 1985 examinations, internal and external, were written when schools reopened this year and three weeks ago Dr Gerrit Viljoen, Minister of Education and Training, said that the 6 858 matric candidates who wrote this year would not know the final marks yet nor whether any of them had obtained university exemption "due to investigations of alleged irregularities in respect of a number of candidates".

Allegations and denials about the condition of the black education system rage on. What cannot be denied, however, is that the performance of black pupils has shown a steady decline each year since 1976, culminating with 1985 when

very few pupils sat for their examinations.

While the numbers of pupils sitting examinations and actually passing has increased in the last 10 years, the actual pass percentages have dropped and have often been misleading in that they included candidates who scored an ordinary pass as well as those eligible for university entrance.

The number of blacks gaining university entrance grades has nose-dived in the past 10 years.

A sample of the past few years reveals that:

- More than 49 000 candidates wrote matric in 1981 and, despite massive leaks of examination papers in wide areas of the country, the examinations were not rewritten. Only 57 percent of matric candidates passed — 7 percent less than the previous year which was also plagued by paper leaks.

The DET itself said it was "not altogether satisfied" with the outcome, and for two weeks refused to allow publication of results.

- In 1982 more than 62 000 black children sat for matric examinations. Only 50.2 percent passed and less than 4 percent were eligible for university entrance.

- In 1983 leaks again plagued the matric examinations which were sat by more than 73 000 candidates; 17 000 had to resit the mathematics paper.

The pass rate was 50.4 percent and 11.8 percent gained university entrance. Teacher groups and students queried the results, and the Congress of South African Students said at its annual congress that the results had been "fixed".

At the same time Soweto headmasters said they had been summoned to a meeting by a DET official and told not to pass more than 80 percent of Std 5 pupils.

- 1984 began with half the matric class of '83 having failed the examinations. They were then turned back in droves from schools and told they were "too old" to repeat the class.

At the end of the year 72 500 countrywide wrote matric and 52 percent passed.

(In the same year more than 13 000 white pupils in the Transvaal gained university entrance grades, while only 8 300 blacks

countrywide gained a similar grade).

● In 1985 the State of Emergency muddled things, with Soweto headmasters refusing to supervise examinations and being threatened with tough action by the DET. The examinations were postponed to this year — and results are still not available.

A look at the statistics of any random year comparing the matric results for white, coloured, Indian and black pupils reveals a lot.

For example, last year's results:

- WHITES: (Transvaal Education Department) 92 percent passed
- COLOURED: 72 percent passed
- INDIANS: 86 percent passed
- BLACKS: 52 percent passed.

The same race groups also field candidates writing the same examination — the Joint Matriculation

Board — and their results for last year were:

- WHITES: 93 percent
- COLOURED: 78 percent
- INDIANS: 86 percent
- BLACKS: 15 percent.

When this year's academic season began black student groups said no examination fees must be paid by pupils and any already paid had to be refunded. The same, they said, went for school fees.

Now that the DET has closed schools in some areas until the end of the year, many pupils will not be able to write their examinations. And with more than 300 000 pupils not re-admitted to school after refusing to re-register for the second term, another bleak year has been added to the sorry saga of black education.

No Classes Until 1987 for Thousands

Johannesburg THE SUNDAY STAR in English 21 Sep 86 p 12

[Article by Jon Qwelane]

[Text]

HUNDREDS of thousands of black pupils will not continue with their education until at least the beginning of next year.

This is because the DET has closed 33 schools in the Eastern Cape, Soweto and the East Rand.

However, the department says many of the pupils at the closed schools have stayed away and boycotted classes for a considerable period, and therefore "only a small number" have been affected by the closure and the DET is "very willing" to accommodate them at nearby schools.

In addition to the many pupils affected by the closure of schools, an estimated 300 000 pupils — a figure which the DET say is "pure speculation" — have been refused re-admission because they did not register for the second term.

What this now means is that end-of-year results for this year could be the worst in 10 years — even surpassing 1985 when Soweto headmasters refused to have anything to do with matric examinations, resulting in the postponement of the examinations to a few months ago.

On Wednesday some 200 educationists and members of the private sector at an education seminar in Johannesburg said the DET must meet the National Crisis Education Committee to discuss the schools now closed, with a view to getting them re-opened.

Even though the DET says it is "only a very small number" of pupils affected by the closures, the chairman of the Soweto Parents Crisis Committee, Mrs Sebolelo Mohajane, says there are "thousands of children out of school because of the closure ... we must look at the black child who is in the middle of a crisis, we must start assisting that child now".

Parents, educationists and pupils say the system of black education is a total failure and must be scrapped to make way for something else. The DET, on the other hand, says it is "willing to discuss every aspect of the development and upgrading programme fully, both past and present".

But many parents, pupils and an increasing number of educationists seem to favour the novel idea of "people's education" which was dealt with at length at the seminar.

Educationist Dr Ken Hartshorne describes the concept of "people's education" as the "working out of the educational consequences of the Freedom Charter", being inextricably bound up with the concept of "peo-

ple's power" which was the collective strength of the community.

He said "apartheid education" had been damaging to black and white children, being "authoritarian in nature and influenced strongly by Christian National education".

But the Government looks askance at the concept of "people's education". Last week Dr Gerrit Viljoen, Minister of Education and Training, said he was in favour of the idea if it meant the involvement of communities in their schools by way of school committees, boards and representative councils for pupils.

However, if it meant a "revolutionary" system of tuition aiming at politically indoctrinating pupils it would not be allowed.

A concerned East Rand parent suggests another idea for black schools: the return of black education to the pre-Verwoerdian era when all schools in the townships and rural areas were run by the churches.

He suggests that the annual moneys budgeted for the DET be channelled to the churches, who must then run schools and recruit and train teachers.

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CSO: 3400/69

SOUTH AFRICA

BRIEFS

PLAN TO UPGRADE EAST RAND TOWNSHIPS--The East Rand Development Area (formerly the Development Board) is planning a multimillion-rand project to extend and upgrade the three East Rand townships of Tsakane, Duduza and kwaThema. When the project is completed, the three townships could have a combined population of more than half a million. Mr J.H. Opperman, East Rand Development Area (Erada) chief director, said the plan was drawn up 30 years ago by the Metz Commission, but was not implemented because the Government then regarded blacks as temporary workers in "white" South Africa. "The three towns will grow together, but they will still be administered by three separate municipalities," he said. He pointed out, however, that plans for kwaThema were still not final as the township had its own town council which had the right to come up with its own proposals. The councils of Tsakane and Duduza have collapsed following the resignation of councillors last year. "In the case of Tsakane and Duduza, they both have no councils and we are only there to support the communities until such time that there are elections for new councillors." Mr Opperman said 28 000 new stands could be created in the envisaged consolidation plan for the three areas. kwaThema presently had 10 000 stands, Tsakane 8 500 and Duduza 4 000, he said. Mr Opperman said work would begin on October 16 to instal water and sewerage facilities in every household in Duduza. The township presently uses the bucket system and residents have to collect water supplies from street taps. "We are going to spend R9 million in this project in Duduza." He also announced that 272 houses commissioned by Erada for Tsakane have been completed and occupied. "We promised these families that they would be properly accommodated, and now our promise has been carried out." [Text] [Johannesburg THE STAR in English 17 Sep 86 p 18] /9317

SOWETO HARD HIT BY UNEMPLOYMENT--Massive unemployment in Soweto is revealed in a Unisa Bureau for Market Research survey released in Pretoria at the weekend. Frustration, the survey found, was greatest among the 20-24 male age group, where 40% were mainly unemployed. The youngest group was unable to find work despite being better qualified than their parents. The economic circumstances of some Sowetans was causing frustration, while another group was enjoying relative prosperity. In the 25-34 age group, the unemployment level was 41%. In 1970, two-thirds of all Sowetans between the ages of 20 and 64 earned a salary. Last year this declined to 46%. About 30% of all males in the 20-64 age group were not gainfully employed, 59% were earning salaries, and 3% were pensioners. The survey found average household income

more than doubled in real terms between 1962 and last year, when it amounted to R9 756. Men's earnings averaged R6 512 and women's R4 292. The average salary of professionals was roughly three times higher than the R3 879 earned by unskilled workers last year. "One part of the population is becoming richer while another is getting poorer." The percentage of households in the lower-income groups rose from a low of 14% in 1975 to 23% in 1985. The percentage of households in the higher-income groups--R12 000 plus--rose from 15% in 1975 to 25% last year. Soweto households, the survey found, spent about a third of their budget on food. Next to food, 15% was spent on housing and electricity. [Text] [Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English 15 Sep 86 p 3] /9317

NON-WHITE BUS STOPS IN JOHANNESBURG CBD--More than 50 000 black, coloured and Indian bus commuters are on the brink of being allowed bus stops in the Johannesburg city centre. Until now they have been forced to walk up to 3 km to work from terminuses on the outskirts of the central business district. This will be the first time in the city's history that boarding rights previously reserved for whites will be extended to other races who are permitted to travel through, but not stop, in the city centre. In addition to the creation of about 25 new stops, additional black routes are to be introduced through the CBD, said the president of the Johannesburg Chamber of Commerce, Mr Pat Corbin, whose efforts were largely responsible for the improvements. He considered the removal of racial implications from transport a logical move after the declaration of the CBD as a free trading area and personally approached all affected property owners and business for support. "Their reactions were positive. Most of them said the move was long overdue and only one refused to have a black bus stop sited near his business." The city's traffic and security and metropolitan planning departments had backed the plan all the way, he said. "Now the ball is in the management committee's court as we await the final go-ahead." Routes for Indians and coloured people have been finalised and Mr Corbin was confident that black routes would be operational within four weeks. A new black route is to be introduced via Doornfontein, End, Marshall and Anderson streets. This would be the first of many additions or alterations to the existing bus routes in the CBD, Mr Corbin said. [Text] [Johannesburg THE STAR in English 22 Sep 86 p 11] /9317

FIRST BLACK TRAIN DRIVERS FOR SATS--Durban, South African Transport Services have employed the first black pupil train drivers. The five--Mr Vusumuzi Myeza, 26, Mr Ntobeko Sivetshe, 38, Mr Poobalem Govender, 32, and Mr Benjamin Govender, 18--will begin training on October 6 at Wentworth Training College. They were previously employed by Sats in various grades. Sats's manager of public relations Mr Alan Lubbe said the men had been selected from about 230 applications. He said Sats had begun a selection procedure early this year to acquire blacks for training as driver assistants or pupil drivers. The men will train for nine months. On completion, the men will undergo a test and those who pass will work with qualified train drivers for four years as assistants. They could then be nominated according to seniority for further training at the Esselen Park college in the Transvaal. If they pass the Transvaal course then they can become fully qualified train drivers. [Text] [Cape Town THE WEEKEND ARGUS in English 6 Sep 86 p 2] /9317

MAMELODI YOUTHS FIGHT CRIME--Far from reducing crime, the state of emergency has led to a crime wave in the Pretoria townships, according to the Mamelodi Civic Association and the Mamelodi Youth Organisation. The comments were made against the background of an upsurge in youth activity in Mamelodi and an anti-crime campaign. Groups of youths calling themselves "the young lions" have been patrolling the township confiscating weapons from criminals in the streets and shebeens. "This is a wonderful move. But it is the task of our community organisations to make sure that the whole thing does not get out of hand. The youths must act in a disciplined manner," said one elderly Mamelodi resident. A spokesman for various Atteridgeville community organisations said the recent escalation in the crime rate--despite the presence of the police and army in the townships--was an indication of how little control they had. "We call for them to withdraw from the townships so that the people can run their own affairs through street and area committees without hindrance," the spokesman said. [Text] [Johannesburg THE NEW NATION in English 11-24 Sep 86 p 5] /9317

COSATU TO ORGANIZE CONSTRUCTION WORKERS--The Congress of SA Trade Unions (Cosatu) has set up a co-ordinating committee to organise hundreds of thousands of construction workers. The committee is made up of existing Cosatu affiliates who have an organised presence in the construction industry. This is the first significant step towards forming a construction workers' union since the decision at a Cosatu meeting last year. According to Cosatu assistant general secretary Sydney Mufamadi, the new union will fight arbitrary retrenchments and movements of workers around the country, a practice he says is common in the industry. [Text] [Johannesburg THE NEW NATION in English 11-24 Sep 86 p 3] /9317

CSO: 3400/69

SOUTH AFRICA

MISSION CHURCH SYNOD REJECTS STATE OF EMERGENCY

MB011642 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1311 GMT 1 Oct 86

[Text] Cape Town Oct 1 SAPA--The synod of the NG Sendingkerk [Dutch Reformed Mission Church] today rejected the reasons for the imposition of the state of emergency and said it would continue to press for the release of all detainees. It also accepted that when a Christian felt bound by conscience to follow a "line of criticism" which brought him into conflict with the state, he always had to obey God rather than a human being. "In such a case he or she must accept the punishment and suffering that goes with it in the spirit of Christ and his apostles in accordance with the Belhar Confession."

These points came up during discussion of a report on detention without trial compiled by the church's temporary commission on current affairs. The report said the church had, through protest, repeatedly exercised its prophetic responsibility towards the government in the matter of detention without trial. "The reaction of the government to this prophetic criticism shows clearly a hardening of heart and an increasingly uncompromising attitude in regard to detention without trial.

"The point of departure in this matter will have to be that the church stands here directly opposed to the government."

The government could not stand the test of the "higher law".

The commission recommended that the synod decide that a number of biblical principles were applicable. Among them were that:

--no one could be detained unless a charge was laid against him so that he could defend himself in a court under the normal process of law;

--no detainee could be denied the pastoral care of the church;

--every citizen should have the freedom to express his opinion in a responsible manner on all matters affecting politics and the community.

All the recommendations of the temporary commission were accepted by the synod.

The synod also resolved that the government be asked urgently to make the names and places of detention of all detainees known and to allow their families and ministers to visit them. The synod declared that members of congregations should not distance themselves in "word or deed" from those held without trial.

/6662

CSO: 3400/98

SOUTH AFRICA

COLUMNIST DEPLORES LACK OF HONEST POLITICAL REPORTING ON RADIO, TV

Durban POST NATAL in English 17-20 Sep 86 p 10

[Article by Ameen Akhalwaya in 'My View' Column]

[Text]

PAM Ewing's terminal-ly-ill lover, Mark, disappeared from *Dallas*, presumably lost in a plane crash. But Mark reappeared in a different guise in *Flamingo Road*. Then he reappeared in *Dallas*...

Fallon's baby was kidnapped a few months ago. Then the baby was kidnapped again. But he/she wasn't kidnapped twice. It was just that *Dynasty* (or was it *Falcon Crest*?), having had a run on Bop-TV, was now appearing on SABC-TV.

For the casual viewer, keeping track of who's who and who's doing what to whom in which programme is mind-boggling enough, but it is even more confusing trying to keep track of the TV channel on which all this soap-sudded skulduggery is going on.

To add to the chaos, M-Net is preparing to take off, while the SABC has changed its radio frequencies.

Now I don't know what their situation is in Natal. But on the Reef we have — in addition to SABC radio's usual English and Afrikaans, ethnic and pop programmes — Radio 702, Radio Bop, and occasionally Capital 604.

702, Bop, and Capital are supposed to be homeland-based stations, but who really believes that?

On 702's hourly news programme, for example, seldom is there news about its supposed homeland, Bophuthatswana. The callers on John Berk's popular 702 chat shows are almost all from the Reef. In fact, telephone callers are asked to dial a Johannesburg number.

Now the SABC has introduced a pukkah non-homeland station called Radio Metro. Aimed at urban blacks, Radio Metro has knocked a couple of racist theories for a six. In Government language, urban blacks means urban Africans, which really translates into relatively higher income, better educated, more sophisticated (in Western terms) people.

For years Government and apartheid apologists have been telling us how each population group's language, traditions, and culture have to be preserved. So they gave us a host of ethnic services, such as Radio Bantu, English and Afrikaans radio, and now Radio Lotus for Indian listeners (though nobody has explained how the wide

usage of English on Lotus programmes helps to preserve one's language or culture as defined by apartheid apologists).

The apologists have yet to explain why there is no separate channel for people classified coloured, though there are one or two racist jokes filed away about that.

Back to Radio Metro. Listeners have been lining up to phone their messages through the station. A significant proportion of callers is from Indian and coloured group areas, as well as a tiny proportion from white areas.

Tell us, dear SABC and supporters, how come people across the colour spectrum have warmed to Radio Metro? What does that do to your language and cultural preservation theories?

The same must be asked of advertisers and advertising agencies. People in the media business will confirm how difficult it is to obtain national advertising for publications circulating in Indian and coloured group areas.

Agencies claim Indian and coloured people should be treated as whites in terms of advertising. But that doesn't mean apartheid's greatest apologist, the SABC, sticks to its rules.

With the imminent ad-

vent of M-Net, the SABC has lopped off large chunks of TV2 and TV3 and given them to TV4.

How are the languages and cultures of black people going to survive against this foreign onslaught, SABC? Are black people being brainwashed — as far as right-wingers believe — into changing their lifestyles to those of JR, Sue-Ellen, and the rest of the TV gang?

Or are blacks being forced to watch Bop-TV? If they are, then the same problem arises. Many entertainment programmes on Bop are in fact the same as those on SABC, and in English to boot. Hence the large number of whites who tune in to Bop.

Bop has few programmes in Tswana. That again is a problem for the cultural preservation theorists.

While we are waiting for the answers we'll never get, listeners and viewers are awash in soaps and music. It's all splendid escapist stuff, which people need to keep balance and sanity in their lives.

But if we have to take

all the radio and TV channels in South Africa, one important ingredient is missing: honest political reporting, honest airing of varying opinions.

The SABC is, of course, well-known for its National Party bias and propaganda, though its Radio Today has tried to air views of the Nats' opponents.

Radio 702 has little politics outside its short hourly news programmes, but one has yet to hear of extra-parliamentary spokesmen on its chat shows.

The type of inane political comment we are subjected to outside the SABC's normal political programmes comes from the likes of superpatriot Robin Alexander on Radio Orion, or sports commentators, especially on the Afrikaans service.

Friends in Natal say

this type of conservative opinion is also frequently heard on Capital, although Capital does, I'm told, give the views of extra-parliamentary politicians.

But to get a reasonable idea of South African opinion across the board, one has to tune in to overseas stations, such as the BBC, and even the Voice of America, though one has to be more circumspect about the latter because it is linked to the US State Department.

Why should we be forced to resort to foreign stations to learn more about our country? Why can we not have truly independent stations and TV channels which would be more

balanced and honest in their approach to politics?

The answer, of course, is that the Nats and their apologists want us to hear only their side of the story, as they have tried to do through the Bureau for Information on matters relating to unrest.

While the Government tries to manipulate and manage the news, it tries to keep the populace happy by giving them a surfeit of entertainment and sport on radio and TV.

Just ask M-Net — the Government has pointedly refused to allow it to air news programmes.

What all that boils down to is that when we ask for bread, the Government is quite happy to give us cake.

And, with few protests, we are swallowing it, soap suds and all.

SOUTH AFRICA

LEADING JOURNALIST DISCUSSES PRESS RESTRICTIONS

MB261657 London BBC World Service in English 1309 GMT 26 Sep 86

[From the "24 Hours" program introduced by Nick Worrall]

[Text] South Africa has imposed more restrictions on press reporting in the current state of emergency in the country. The government's Bureau for Information, which has controlled official news on unrest since the emergency was imposed in June, is to close its media center. It will no longer be available for instant response to press enquiries. Reporters will now have to use the telex to seek information or confirmation of reports. A short while ago I called up (Patricia Sidley), who is president of the Society of South African Journalists. I asked her what this new move would mean for journalists in South Africa.

[Begin recording] [(Sidley)] I think, legally speaking, it probably means less than a lot of the press are going to feel. There is a misconception that the press have to have information from the Bureau of Information. In fact it's really only a journalistic ethic that you should receive what the state has to say and go and find it. The one area where it will be affected is on troop movements or defense force activity, where the only source of news has been the bureau. Now that is going to be much closer, if we hear it at all.

[Worrall] Because in practical terms there are considerable restrictions on what you can report, presumably you have had to rely on the bureau to be able to report certain aspects of the state of emergency.

[(Sidley)] That is what the government had wanted. They had wanted that most of the media should rely on the bureau. In fact part of the problem that has contributed to the bureau's rather spiteful action is that they have been absolutely unreliable. A fair amount of information that newspapers could have got on their own has not come from the bureau.

[(Sidley)] My personal belief is that they have deliberately sought to mislead, in addition to which they are simply incompetent. But then they are not to be expected to behave as journalists. Few of them are journalists. If any at all they come from the Department of Foreign Affairs. Really they

are bureaucrats and propagandists, and one should not have expected them to behave as journalists would. So, I think they have misled; and they are also inefficient, because it is not in the nature of that particular beast to ferret out information in the way in which a journalist would.

[Worral] It is fair enough indeed that they should seek to give the government's point of view, especially representing a government that is considerably under press attack at the present moment. But in what way do you believe that they have tried to mislead, for instance, the international press?

[(Sidley)] It's not quite fair enough that they should defend the government's point of view. They are supposed to be giving information, and so one would think that that was perhaps a little bit removed from just the government's point of view. That is the way in which they have misled everybody, including the overseas press. There is a notion behind the instituting of the Bureau of Information that if you give out the government's point of view it is information. So, if there is a riot or a massacre by the defense force of black people in the township, what is the government's point of view going to be on that? Its point of view is naturally going to be to hide it as much as possible or give out a distorted view. That is what has happened with the Bureau of Information. It has not sent its people in there to uncover what happened and tell that. As a consequence, the information that has come from the bureau has been limited to what the government wishes the outside world to see, which is either a gross distortion of the truth or in fact hides it altogether.

[Worral] Now, in the past South Africa has enjoyed quite considerable press freedom, and in fact the government has made much play of that in its international propaganda. How do you see press freedom today in South Africa?

[(Sidley)] I am not one of the people who have believed that we have enjoyed considerable press freedom. We haven't for many decades. But, as you say, it's propaganda that we have. So, what was left of press freedom has diminished, and I would say that now we have joined the ranks of the countries that can claim to have none at all. Journalists are so severely restricted here. It is effectively a police state. [End recording]

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CSO: 3400/98

SOUTH AFRICA

FORMER PFP LEADERS TO OPEN CHANGE INSTITUTE

MB300935 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0905 GMT 30 Sep 86

[Embargoed until 1300 GMT on 30 September]

[Text] Cape Town, Sept 30 SAPA--The first regional office of the Institute for a Democratic Alternative for South Africa [IDASA] would be opened in Port Elizabeth in November, the executive director of Idasa, Dr Alex Boraine, announced in Cape Town today. Dr Frederick van Zyl Slabbert, former leader of the opposition, and Dr Boraine, former PFP [Progressive Federal Party] MP for Pinelands, will be engaged full time in Idasa when the headquarters, based on Cape Town, opens in January next year. More regional offices will be opened when staff and funding become available.

"Idasa is the outcome of a series of discussions with key black and white leaders throughout South Africa as well as outside of South Africa and is committed to a non-racial, democratic South Africa," Dr Boraine said. The goals of Idasa include:

--to help those South Africans of all races who reject apartheid to discover an alternative that is non-racial and democratic in the true sense of the word;

--to reassure those who are fearful of a post-apartheid South Africa and involve them in working towards that alternative;

--to mobilise the skills, knowledge and experience of all those who can help the communities in the crisis areas of South Africa, and

--to provide forums and opportunities on a nationwide basis so that solutions to South Africa's problems can be sought in confidence and without prejudice.

Idasa was not a movement nor a political party, and did not seek to duplicate or usurp the functions of any other democratic organisations, Dr Boraine said.

"It stems from a need for contact and negotiation between those people of good will who have been kept apart for so long that they have lost touch with each other's humanity. I seek to counter the distrust that exists throughout South Africa and to persuade whites in particular not to cling to apartheid because of their fear of an alternative." Dr Boraine said many whites were disillusioned and disgusted with apartheid but had to be assured there was life beyond apartheid. "We are convinced that apartheid will go. We are equally convinced that the more genuine debate that takes place now concerning a non-racial democratic South Africa, the smaller the legacy apartheid will leave behind," he said.

Idasa's main activities would be a series of workshops, seminars and conferences at regional and national levels. A major conference entitled, "A Democratic Alternative for South Africa," to be sponsored by Idasa in the first half of 1987, would be held in Port Elizabeth, with delegates from South Africa and the international community being invited.

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CSO: 3400/98

SOUTH AFRICA

PFP CHAIRMAN COMMENTS ON HEUNIS ELECTION

MB301444 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1419 GMT 30 Sep 86

[Text] Durban Sept 30 SAPA--The minister of constitutional development and planning, Mr Chris Heunis, had been given the state president's "stamp of approval" in the National Party [NP] leadership race by his election as the new Cape leader of the party, the PFP [Progressive Federal Party] said today.

Mr Peter Gastrow, national chairman of the Progressive Federal Party, said in a statement released in Durban that the real reason the state president, Mr P.W. Botha, had stepped down as Cape leader of the NP was "the polishing up which Mr Heunis receives as a result."

"He now has President Botha's stamp of approval for the leadership race.

"In addition, the Kingmaker Botha will be stepping out of the ring in which the Cape and Transvaal national parties will vie for power and deal with the many internal tensions which exist."

Mr Gastrow said the possible addition of about eight parliamentary seats to the Transvaal after the next delimitation would upset many Cape NP members.

"Mr Heunis' promotion may well backfire on him because he is now the one who will have to face the flak."

Mr Gastrow also commented on the appointment at the NP's Cape congress today of Dr Lapa Munnik, the minister of communications and public works, as a vice-chairman of the Cape NP in Mr Heunis' place, and the re-election of Mrs Marietta Badenhorst, wife of Mr Heunis's deputy minister, Mr Piet Badenhorst, as the other vice-chairman.

"If Mrs Badenhorst and Dr Lapa Munnik represent the new leadership material of the NP, then that party is in a sorry state.

"Dr Munnik is yesterday's man--what has happened to the new nats?" Mr Gastrow said.

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CSO: 3400/98

SOUTH AFRICA

RADIO COMMENTS ON MULTINATIONAL NATURE OF RSA

MB010746 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 1 Oct 86

[Station commentary: "Various Peoples With a Common Destiny"]

[Text] In its obsession with sanctions as a means of forcing South Africa to do experiments the Western world remains totally unmoved by the fundamentals of the South African situation. Chief among these is the fact that South Africa is a country of many nations, all of them minorities.

The strife in most other African states stems from a similar situation. The difference between South Africa and these other states is that while they have 2 or 3 different nations within their borders, South Africa has 13. The whites form 1 group, the coloreds--or people of mixed descent--form another, the Asians another, and the blacks comprise 10 different nations.

The whites, coloreds, and Asians speak the same languages, English and Afrikaans, and their cultures and traditions have similarities. The 10 black nations, on the other hand, have 10 different languages, 10 different cultures, and their traditions and value systems are also totally different, not only from each other but also from the whites, coloreds, and Asians. In the past, there was rigid separation between all the groups on all levels. This policy came to be known as apartheid and later as separate development with the accent on development. Over the past quarter of a century, South Africa's 10 black nations were given their own national states in the interest of (?their) self-determination. A total of 4 of those 10 now have sovereign independence, and the other states are self-governing. In the ongoing process of modern democracy in South Africa, the colored and Asian groups, which do not have their own traditional territory and which share so many traditions with the whites, were also accorded political self-determination with the establishment, 2 years ago, of their own chambers in South Africa's central parliament. The final stage of constitutional development in South Africa involves the accommodation of black political aspirations at central government level.

It was against this background that President P.W. Botha said this week: We cannot accept any constitutional model that does not fully account for the multicultural nature of our society. Western governments need to come to terms with this reality if they are to have any positive influence on developments in South Africa.

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CSO: 3400/98

SOUTH AFRICA

POLICE MANPOWER SHORTAGE MANIFESTED AS CRIME RATE SOARS

Police Deployed in Townships

Johannesburg THE STAR in English 22 Sep 86 p 1

[Text] South Africa is facing a critical police manpower shortage as crime in urban areas continues to soar.

Continuing political violence is being blamed for the shortage of police. In a predicted side-effect, short-term insurance premiums are expected to rise by as much as 70 percent.

The crime rate in the Pretoria-Witwatersrand-Vereeniging area has risen dramatically as police battle to maintain a presence in both the townships and white urban areas.

Some security companies said there had been a marked increase in the number of companies approaching them for protection. One source speculated that as much as 80 percent of the police force was being deployed in the townships.

The Minister of Law and Order, Mr Louis le Grange, told the Transvaal National Party congress at the weekend that intimidation in the black townships was one of the most difficult aspects of unrest to combat.

The most effective counter-measure was to ensure an adequate physical presence of security forces in the townships over a long period, but manpower was limited.

"Over the past 18 months, the most effective intimidation achieved has been simply to show a box of matches to people who break boycotts, for example, to indicate that their houses will be burnt down," said Mr le Grange.

6000 Cadets In Training

He added that the programme to double the present strength of the police force was running according to schedule. The government planned to increase the ratio of policemen for every 1000 South African from the present 1,7 to 2,9 by next year.

The force would be increased by 7500 people in October when the Railways Police merged with the SAP. In addition, about 6000 cadets were being trained this year in police colleges.

It was hoped also that 6000 municipal policemen, who would play an important role in maintaining law and order, would be trained by the end of the year.

Many short-term insurers have already pushed up rates for new businesses and existing business is due to be brought in line next month.

The average insurance claim has doubled this year in the wake of what police say is a marked increase in crime, particularly vehicle theft.

The brunt of the increases will be felt in the PWV area, where crimes have soared by as much as 40 percent.

In the first six months of this year alone, a total of 6052 vehicles--30 a day--were reported stolen in Johannesburg, Sandton and Randburg. This is a 40 percent increase on the corresponding figure for 1985.

Insurance Rates Go Up

Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English 22 Sep 86 pp 1, 2

[Text]

CRIME in suburban SA is soaring as police have turned their attention to combating political violence.

One major insurer reports that car thefts are up by 86% and household goods by 30% on last year.

Insurance premiums have already jumped by 40% in some instances, and industry sources say they will have to increase to cope with the spiralling crime rate.

Progressive Federal Party (PFP) justice spokesman David Dalling said: "By deploying such large numbers of police in the townships, the force available to counter ordinary crime has been greatly reduced.

"The normal crime investigation and prevention has taken a back seat to the political role of the police."

The SAP's Lieutenant-Colonel Vic Haynes said: "The SAP does not deny there is room for improvement in the prevention and combating of crime."

Haynes pointed to the decision by Parliament to increase the size of the police force from its present 48 000 to more than 86 000 by 1994.

He said: "The police do their best with the available manpower and are still capable of achieving a reasonable success rate."

The SAP will not comment on the number of police stationed in the townships, nor will it say if these additional forces have come at the expense of security elsewhere.

But a private security industry source

estimated that 80% of the police force was in the townships, leaving 20% for other areas.

Owners of private security firms report that business is booming as more and more people have given up faith in the police and turned elsewhere for protection.

Commercial Union recorded a maximum 18 stolen motor vehicles in any given month last year in the firm's largest Johannesburg branch. This year 52 cars were stolen in July alone and another 47 were taken last month, said MD Bill Rutherford.

SA Eagle GM Brian Wilkinson said: "Because of the work, the police are being forced to cope with at the moment, they might not be able to give their full attention to these problems."

Wilkinson said claims made by SA Eagle policy holders for car thefts have jumped for the period January to August by 86% compared with last year. In the case of household theft, there has been a 30% increase.

Insurance firms have traditionally worked on a 10% recovery rate for stolen vehicles but report that they have been lucky to get 3%-4% this year.

One insurance executive claimed the police have virtually stopped looking for stolen vehicles.

Insurance executives complain that rising premiums are hardly keeping pace with claims.

Rutherford said: "It's like the man who was trying to fill up one of those big American cars with petrol. He finally says 'Stop the engine -- you're gaining on me.'"

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CSO: 3400/90

SOUTH AFRICA

SACTU BLAMES APARTHEID FOR HIGH FATALITY RATE IN MINES

Johannesburg THE STAR in English 14 Sep 86 p 9

[Text] LONDON — South African mines have a "disastrous record," says the South African Congress of Trade Unions (Sactu).

In a statement from Lusaka, it claims that an average of almost two miners are killed and 10 injured every day in accidents on gold mines.

"This high fatality and injury rate ... stems from apartheid. It is the racist and exploitative conditions in the pursuit of super-profits that makes mining in South Africa one of the most dangerous occupations in the world."

Sactu condemns Gencor, saying its health and safety record is "among the worst in the international rating system".

It calls on all miners to demand recognition of the National Union of Mineworkers at their workplace as the first step towards ensuring adequate health and safety standards.

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CSO: 3400/90

SOUTH AFRICA

INDIAN HOUSING MINISTER DESCRIBES PLAN TO SOLVE HOUSING PROBLEM

Johannesburg THE STAR in English 15 Sep 86 p 11

[Report on interview with Indian Housing Minister Baldeo Dookie by Bruce Cameron; date and place not given]

[Text]

CAPE TOWN — Final details are being completed for a housing strategy involving millions of rands to wipe out over the next few years the 40 000-unit housing backlog for Indians.

Indian Housing Minister Mr Baldeo Dookie is confident he can break the back of the backlog within five years, with 10 years required to wipe it out finally.

The biggest problem he faces is the shortage of land and the ravaging effect the Group Areas Act has had on the Indian community's land ownership.

Mr Dookie says he has been unfairly criticised for not getting moving fast enough on providing houses. But he says his critics are now in for a surprise.

After taking over a department which inherited a legacy of very little from the old constitutional structure, he says he had to start more or less at the beginning.

There had been no forward planning and in 1981 Government policy was changed. Houses could only be constructed for people earning less than R150 a month.

At the same time nothing was done to stimulate a climate for the private sector to take over.

This, he said, was a major mistake. "Housing is one issue where budgets cannot be cut. It creates frustrated communities."

When he took over, housing for Indians fell under various Government departments and local authorities with the result that there was no single plan or proper assessment.

The first task he set was to draw up a housing strategy establishing needs and priorities.

The plan for Natal has been completed and one for the Transvaal is nearing completion.

At the same time land is being identified for townships and various options are being considered for the construction of homes.

The target of the new strategy is to reduce the cost of housing and take account of the financial position of each individual.

Mr Dookie said: "People must not be faced with such large housing costs that they are not able to afford to eat

properly, buy essentials or pay for education."

Some of the major policy decisions taken include:

- Initially, of the sites provided by the Department, 80 percent would be for the construction of homes for the low income groups while the rest would be made available on a site and service basis.

This ratio would, however, gradually be changed, making more self-help sites available. People earning less than R800 a month would qualify for constructed homes.

- Because of the criticism of the type of housing and the high initial costs owners would be given far greater choice.

Prototype "starter homes" were being constructed or planned in Durban, Richards Bay, Lenasia outside Johannesburg, and Pelican Park in Cape Town.

These starter homes could be built in four stages. The first stage would be a basic roofed shell with electrical and water fittings, a kitchen and bathroom.

The next three stages would include room partitions and plastering and various finishes such as paint, carpeting and

built-in cupboards. At all stages the potential owners will have the choice.

Mr Dookie says in the past large amounts of money had been wasted because soon after moving into the State-built homes people undertook major alterations.

- The aim would be home ownership, keeping rented housing to a minimum.

- A new rental formula was being drawn up which would include incentives to purchase homes. This would be announced soon.

- Apart from starting and developing new housing schemes, money would be set aside to upgrade existing towns, such as Chatsworth and Phoenix, providing better infrastructure.

- The infrastructure in new townships would be given priority. Transport links with such things as bus terminals and bus bays would be settled before people moved into a new area, with clinics and schools going up as soon as possible. Pre-

viously the development of homes had taken place first.

- Special attention would be given to rural areas as a separate entity from the urban areas.

Here basic structures with a water supply would be provided and would meet health requirements. Infrastructure would be improved as demand grew.

- Various legislative amendments were being considered which would allow local authorities to push ahead with the development of new townships before they were legally proclaimed.

The amendments would also permit building societies to grant financial assistance up to a limit of R80 000 in the interim period.

- Land would no longer be sold priced only on square meterage. The type of plot and position of the plot would be taken into account.

- The Department was studying possible de-regulation in the housing sector as many people were being deprived of homes as a result of over-regulation.

Mr Dookie said the money budgeted for housing was an indication of how seriously the problem was being taken.

Between 1920 and 1980 the Government had spent R750 million, providing 84 000 housing units.

This year R127 million had been budgeted to provide 4 000 housing units and 7 600 serviced sites and the tempo would increase.

A further R49 million had been made available to his Department from the special housing and employment development scheme announced last month by the Government.

This money would be used to buy more land and start work on more homes. But because of planning delays much of the work would not be undertaken this year.

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CSO: 3400/72

SOUTH AFRICA

WORK PROGRESSING ON MISSION IN MAPUTO

Johannesburg THE STAR in English 16 Sep 86 p 4

[Text]

MAPUTO — The new buildings for the South African diplomatic mission in Maputo are going up on a prime site in the centre of the capital.

Work on the complex is going ahead despite the dwindling prominence of the Nkomati Accord, of which the new buildings are the most visible manifestation.

Most parts of the compound — which comprises a two-storey office building and 16 townhouses — were prefabricated in Durban because of the shortage of skilled workers in Mozambique.

Observers attach significance to the fact that the Frelimo Government gave permission for work on the compound to go ahead despite the serious political difficulties that have beset the Nkomati Accord.

QUIET DIPLOMACY GOES ON

The decision underlines the strange duality of Maputo's attitude — keeping the accord going, in name at least, while at the same time angrily and repeatedly accusing South Africa of deliberately violating it by continuing to supply the MNR insurgents.

The South African Government firmly denies these allegations and is believed to be continuing quiet diplomatic efforts to promote the accord. Construction of the compound is seen as reaffirmation of South Africa's commitment to the accord.

South Africa is anxious to make the most of the accord, including the diplomatic presence it allows in Maputo, because it is one of the few such advances Pretoria has been able to make in the largely hostile African continent.

South African diplomats are expected to move into the mission offices by the end of the year.

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CSO: 3400/72

SOUTH AFRICA

BRIEFS

TEACHERS' GROUP OPEN TO ALL RACES--Johannesburg Sept 29 SAPA--Membership of the Transvaal Teachers Association [TTA] has been opened to all races. Its annual conference at Johannesburg College of Education at the weekend amended the TTA Constitution to grant membership to all certificated teachers employed or eligible for employment in any school in Transvaal. New TTA president Professor Rod Connacher said, "It is a significant indication of the attitudes members now have. The decision is not a spontaneous one--it has been widely debated." The TTA is also to canvass members views on a non-racial teachers federal council, open schools and a single ministry of education. Outgoing president Mr Hugo Ackermann told the conference: "While we are bound by the parameters of an own-affairs system while negotiating with the TED [Transvaal Education Department], there are no such confines when dealing with national issues." Earlier this year, the Natal Teachers Society conducted a survey to discover the views of its teachers on non-racial education. Most were found to favour the concept. [Text] [Johannesburg SAPA in English 1126 GMT 29 Sep 86 MB] /6662

COSAS FAILS TO HAVE BANNING OVERRULED--Durban, Oct 1, SAPA--The Congress of South African Students [COSAS], which was declared an unlawful organisation last year, has failed in a bid to have its banning overturned. In a judgment handed down in the Supreme Court, Durban, today, Mr Justice Leon dismissed with costs an application by COSAS for an order declaring the banning to be of no force and effect. The minister of law and order, Mr Louis le Grange declared COSAS to be an unlawful organisation in terms of Section 4(1) of the Internal Security Act in a notice published in the Government Gazette on August 28 last year. The application against the minister was heard by Mr Justice Leon earlier last month. In his judgment Mr Justice Leon said there was nothing in the court papers to suggest that the minister's conduct in issuing the notice had been anything other than impeccable. The judge said the minister had followed the provisions of the statute. He had considered the reports and recommendations of the advisory committee and other relevant information and had reached a decision only after that. Mr Justice Leon said the minister had acted in terms of the statute in issuing the notice after having strictly complied with the requirements of the statute. [Text] [Johannesburg SAPA in English 1245 GMT 1 Oct 86 MB] /6662

HUMAN RIGHTS CHARTER: 'FAVORABLE' REACTION--Our Pretoria office reports that very favorable reaction has been received to an invitation by the South African Law Commission for recommendations on a possible charter for human rights.

The leader of the task group which is investigating the charter, Mr Justice P. Olivier, says although recommendations can still be made until 28 November, the commission had been flooded by proposals, letters, and memorandums from various groups in South Africa. The investigation into the possibility of a charter for human rights was requested in April by the minister of justice, Mr Kobie Coetsee. Mr Coetsee specifically asked that the investigation be aimed at the protection of human and of group rights by the courts, and that the expansion of human rights in South Africa be examined. The most important problems being investigated include that of whether such a charter should be incorporated in a future constitution or whether it should be introduced by parliament. [Text] [Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 2 Oct 86 MB] /6662

CSO: 3400/98

SOUTH AFRICA

SEIFSA: EMBARGOES ON STEEL, COAL EXPORTS TO COST 90,000 JOBS

Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English 15 Sep 86 pp 1, 2

[Article by David Furlonger]

[Text] International embargoes on South African steel and coal exports would cost the country's metal industries over 90 000 jobs--and force more than 500 000 people into starvation.

The warning, from Seifsa--the Steel and Engineering Industries Federation--is the latest shot in a last-minute battle by the country's steel and coal industries to stave off a growing international call for anti-SA sanctions.

European Foreign Ministers meet in Brussels today when they will decide whether to endorse a provisional sanctions package which includes an embargo on imports of SA steel, iron, coal and gold coins.

Delegations from the steel and coal industries were in London last week to meet politicians and other decision-makers, while a R250 000 series of newspaper advertisements warned the British public of the effect sanctions would have on SA's blacks.

Reacting to all the activity, a Foreign Office spokesman said yesterday: "They have left it very late to put their case."

Seifsa's latest warning estimates a direct loss of 47 500 jobs if steel export routes dry up, and a further 46 000 from the effect on metal industries of the collapse of coal export markets.

With many breadwinners supporting five or six dependents, that would remove the only source of income for over half-a-million people.

A Seifsa spokesman said: "The estimated combined loss of 93 500 jobs represents over 20 percent of all employees in the metal industries. An accurate estimate of the impact of these cutbacks on other areas of economic activity is difficult to make, but it can be assumed that it will be significant."

"Taking into account the current level of excessive unemployment in the country, as well as the large number of dependents of each breadwinner, it becomes clear that an increasing number of people would be subjected to severe poverty and starvation as a result of sanctions."

Seifsa director Sam van Coller said yesterday the estimates were based on the assumption of total sanctions against South Africa. The survey was conducted by Seifsa's economic division among the 4 000 employer bodies linked to the federation.

An estimated 455 000 people work in the country's metal industries, of whom 355 000 are in blue-collar "scheduled jobs." Between 70 percent and 75 percent of all workers are black.

A full-page Seifsa advertisement appeared in British national newspapers on Friday, three days after a more low-key newspaper appeal by the coal industry.

The Seifsa advertisement depicts a smiling black girl with telescopic gun-sights centred on her heart.

Under the heading, "You can be sure, sanctions against South Africa will find their mark," the advertisement warns that 2,5-million people in SA and surrounding states are directly cash-dependent on workers in the metal industries.

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SOUTH AFRICA

GOVERNMENT REVISES SPENDING ESTIMATE

Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English 17 Sep 86 p 3

[Text]

GOVERNMENT spending has slowed considerably in the past two months, moving closer to the budgeted projection of a 15,8% increase on actual expenditures last year.

Total expenditures for August were R2,7bn, up 9,8% from the August 1985 figure, according to the account of revenues and issues published in last Friday's *Government Gazette*.

For the first five months of the fiscal year, including August, spending totalled R15,8bn, an 18,3% increase over the same period a year earlier.

A senior government official said his earlier statement that spending for the year would be about 3% over budget was still "reasonable".

Economists analysing the budget, however, said spending would more likely end up 5% above budget.

Government also published a revised estimate of its expenditure for the current fiscal year, reflecting a 1,7% increase on the budget tabled in March.

The Department of Finance said total expenditures for the year were budgeted at R38,21bn — representing a 15,8% increase over actual 1985 spending. The original budget provided for an increase of 13,9%, to R37,57bn.

The figures on government issues, although still well above Finance Minister

Barend du Plessis' budget, show the level of excess has declined since June, when spending for the first three months was 24,4% above the 1985 period.

The decrease indicates that government made special, one-time expenditures at the beginning of the year that may be smoothed out by next March.

In August, the largest increases in issues were recorded in House of Assembly Administration, Development Aid and Defence. Issues for Constitutional Development and Planning — the largest single departmental budget broken down in the figures — declined by 6,5% to R416,7m.

Issues reflect funds issued by government to departments for expenditures. They may not match actual spending in a given month.

At the same time, revenues continued to be slightly sluggish. Tax revenues in August — a month marked by heavy tax collections from mining groups — rose just 3,3% from August 1985 to R3,3bn. For the first five months, revenues rose by 12,2% — slightly below the 12,9% projected by Du Plessis — to R12,85bn.

The combination of higher spending and static tax revenues left government with a deficit before borrowing for the first five months of R2,9bn. Government projected a R4,0bn deficit in its first budget.

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CSO: 3400/73

SOUTH AFRICA

RECESSION FORCES DRASTIC CHANGES IN LIFESTYLE

Johannesburg THE STAR in English 19 Sep 86 p 1

[Article by Michael Chester]

[Text]

Two-thirds of black families and nearly one in every three white families have been forced to make drastic cutbacks in their lifestyles because of the cash squeeze of the prolonged recession, according to a research study released today.

But a faint flicker of improvement has been recorded in signs that, although there is still despondency, consumer pessimism about the economic outlook is not as deep as a year ago.

The Markinor Research Group, in its Consumer Pulse monitor of trends, has found that the number of whites fearing still worse to come has shrunk from 78 percent a year ago to 47 percent.

But pessimism runs much deeper among black families. Even here, however, the number convinced that the economic situation will deteriorate still fur-

ther in the short term has at least slipped from 97 percent last year to 89 percent now.

"Expenditure on items such as clothing, eating out and entertainment, groceries, liquor, transport and holidays is scrutinised for ways of economising," says the study.

"More consumers are shopping on price. Convenience foods and takeaways are being substituted with less expensive, if more onerous, alternatives.

"Saving has become impossible for most people."

Most whites were convinced the main reason for hardship was economic — falls in the gold price and rand exchange rate, Government mismanagement of the economy, and the drought, all aggravated by the political situation.

Blacks were almost unanimous that the problem and solution were political.

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CSO: 3400/73

SOUTH AFRICA

STEEL PRODUCERS REACT NEGATIVELY TO EC, JAPAN BANS ANNOUNCEMENT

Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English 23 Sep 86 p 5

[Article by Chris Cairncross]

[Text]

THE ban imposed on iron and steel imports from SA, announced first by the European Community (EC) and followed by a similar announcement from Japan, has severely jolted SA's steel producers, even though the ban has been threatening for some time.

And despite the subsequent confusion over how effectively these sanctions decisions will be implemented, they are being taken extremely seriously, says Iscor spokesman Piet du Plessis.

As a result of the prolonged recession in SA and depressed domestic demand, steel producers such as Iscor have been concentrating on exports to maintain their viability.

It has been variously estimated that closure of the EC and Japanese markets could cost SA's steel industry at least R300m a year and place about 50 000 jobs in jeopardy.

"We are not contemplating shutting down plants and laying off people yet. Our strategy is to keep the steel plants operating, but it's a difficult situation," Du Plessis says.

Iscor is currently increasing its efforts to seek out alternative

foreign markets for its products, particularly in the Far East.

The strengthening of the rand on foreign exchange markets is not destined to help this effort much and, with the sanctions effort looming closer, exporters have started calling on government to take steps to ensure the rand rate does not strengthen too significantly.

Although the situation remains unclear, the sanctions ban does not extend to iron ores.

□ Iscor notes that its mining operation at Sishen is working to full capacity, but this isn't sufficient, on its own, to secure the viability of the Sishen-Saldanha rail link.

The rail link continues to operate at a loss, despite strenuous efforts by SA Transport Services to increase use of the line. Capacity of the line and bulk port at Saldanha could top 20-million tons a year.

Iscor's usage continues to amount to about 10-million tons a year, or about 700 000-800 000 tons a month. Use of the line has been broadened to include concentrates from Gold Fields' Black Mountain mining operation, and ores from Associated Manganese.

Plans are now in the pipeline to extend the services at Saldanha Bay.

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CSO: 3400/71

SOUTH AFRICA

NATION'S SALARIES COMPARED TO EUROPE, U.S.

Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English 23 Sep 86 p 5

[Text]

SALARY earners in SA were "church mice" compared with European and US salary-earners, a Directors and Boards financial journal report said.

A comparative study found South Africans took home only about half of what their American counterparts did and even less compared with the best paid, the Swiss.

The lower down the scale, the better off South Africans seemed, comparatively speaking: foremen, supervisors and sales reps earned 64% and took home 56% compared with their US colleagues, while senior executives, directors and general managers earned 64% and took home less than 50%.

The Swiss averaged 115% of US salaries, with take-home pay as high as 114%.

South African salaries were 70% of US salaries for junior/middle management and professional staff, who took home 56%, and 70% for senior/middle management, who took home only 50%.

The report said in recent years SA salary earners had been in a much more competitive position compared with the US.

It also said there "was no doubt" the SA economy had "suffered badly" due to movements of the US dollar and other currencies in relation to the rand.

SA salary positions had reversed compared to Europe. Economic depression in SA "had severely slowed job progression".

The report said: "Traditionally, SA has drawn her skills from Europe via immigration, using high salaries, job progression and sunshine as the lures.

"However, the high rate of inflation, the impact of the punitive exchange rates and the heavy personal tax burden have severely damaged our competitive situation."

It said South Africans were not fully aware of the position and were still maintaining a high level of living which was given a false front, from the view that "it is better to spend today than save for tomorrow because of high inflation". — Sapa.

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CSO: 3400/71

SOUTH AFRICA

MINISTER FORESEES SERIOUS WATER CRISIS FOR PWV

Johannesburg THE STAR in English 3 Sep 86 p 11

[Article by Sue Leeman]

[Text]

The population build-up in the PWV area poses serious water problems for the region, says Minister of Agricultural Economics and Water Affairs, Mr Greyling Wentzel.

Speaking at a symposium in Johannesburg yesterday Mr Wentzel said he was worried about water supplies across the country.

"South Africa is building up a water debt which will make the current debt burden of farmers look like the widow's mite.

"Water shortages mean serious socio-political and economic problems for our country.

"The constancy, optimal usage and management of our water resources is necessary for the development of our human potential and future.

"It is vital we come up with new strategies and reorientate our First World philosophies in some ways to make provision for the fact that we have a large Third World component."

Mr Wentzel said the solution to the PWV's water problems lay in transferring water from water-rich areas like Natal.

"But this poses problems. For example, Natal believes that the transfer of its water to the PWV is harmful to its own development."

Mr Wentzel warned that the funding of major projects like the Lesotho Highlands Scheme could be affected by economic and other sanctions.

"Another aspect which needs attention is the deterioration in the quality of water, particularly in the PWV area.

Some of the problems which threatened supplies of pure water are salinisation — often brought about by recycling — drainage difficulties and leaching.

He said that since the 1940s the standard of water in the Vaal River had deteriorated.

"Technology is available to produce pure water but the cost of this needs to be researched."

Urban Growth Threat to Vaal Water

The vigorous economic development of rural areas and growth towns not dependent on Vaal River water will marginally stem the tide of urbanisation towards the PWV.

This was one of the suggestions given by Professor Hentie Boshoff, lecturer in economics at Potchefstroom University, to solve the future heavy demand on the PWV water supply.

Speaking at the Engineering Association of South Africa's water symposium in Sandton yesterday, he said the present urbanisation rate was placing a heavy demand on the PWV water supply.

Population growth, especially with the scrapping of influx control, would only aggravate the problem.

Improved technology could lead to the recycling of water, but this alone could not close the growing gap between water demand and supply. He urged stricter laws governing usage, water prices to reflect the scarcity and the introduction of efficiency standards.

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CSO: 3400/73

SOUTH AFRICA

BRIEFS

WHEAT PRICE RISE--The Cabinet is expected to approve a wheat price rise of about 10 percent at its meeting in Pretoria next Wednesday. Informed sources believe the delay in announcing the new price and its impact on the bread price has been caused by the "political factor." A higher price of bread, sources said, could aggravate the unrest situation in the townships. The bread subsidy for the current financial year is about R190m--R150m from government, R15m from the Wheat Board, and R5m each from the baking and milling industries, plus a R16m carry-over from last year's subsidy. However, if the wheat price is raised, and bakers' and millers' margins are increased, this would be insufficient to hold bread prices at current levels until the end of the financial year. [Text] [Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English 17 Sep 86 p 3] /9317

VOLKSKAS: PROTECT RESERVES--SA must take steps to replenish and protect foreign exchange reserves to help counter the effect of sanctions, Volkskas Bank said yesterday. It said in its monthly Economic Spotlight that Rhodesia showed a country could offset the negative effect of sanctions by obtaining foreign exchange. It suggested SA bolster reserves by promoting export diversification, encouraging domestic purchases of SA goods and services, and imposing selective import controls, particularly on luxury and non-essential items. Volkskas said SA might be forced to suspend debt redemption unilaterally. Under sanctions, government would ration the quantity of available foreign exchange, thus limiting the level of imports. That action could stabilise the value of the rand and the pattern of domestic interest rates. Despite the likelihood that trade sanctions would not be entirely effective, Volkskas said: "Sanctions will definitely not be to the advantage of the SA economy. "In actual fact, there is no winner. The West will not benefit from such a step and neither will SA or countries in Southern Africa." Volkskas said sanctions could provide a short-term boost to the economy, given existing surplus production capacities. [Text] [Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English 17 Sep 86 p 3] /9317

INDUSTRY: PESSIMISTIC '87 OUTLOOK--SA's top 100 industrial companies foresee gloomy economic and political developments next year. Inflation will range between 17%-23% in 1987, executives of the firms forecast in a Unisa Bureau of Market Research survey. Most of them (89%) predict an average growth rate of 2,1% next year. [Text] [Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English 22 Sep 86 p 2] /9317

MAIZE FARMERS FACE UNCERTAIN FUTURE--A question mark hangs over SA's maize industry only weeks before the planting season starts. A substantial number of farmers will find their creditworthiness has disappeared, and banks' and cooperatives' doors closed to them, says the National Maize Producers' Organisation (Nampo). The SA Agricultural Union and Nampo are conducting a survey to determine how many farmers are unable to find the credit to finance the new crop. Nampo economist Kit le Clus says bankruptcies among farmers are accelerating. For this reason, and because of the new pre-planning pricing system, less land will be planted with maize. Nampo has urged farmers to reduce production substantially this year or face the threat of huge export losses. It has recommended that the industry take out of production 1-million of the 4-million ha normally planted with maize. Le Clus stresses there is uncertainty in the drought-plagued maize industry. If the new pricing system is to succeed, substantial government aid will be needed to assist farmers to switch from traditional maize production. [Text] [Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English 23 Sep 86 p 3] /9317

FOREIGN INVESTMENT HELPS BOOST REAL ESTATE--Residential property has followed parts of the commercial sector with a slight improvement in the past month. Foreign investment in real estate through the financial rand is already being felt on the home front. Although prices have not yet moved and estate agents are quick to caution that the slight upturn could be a hiccup, they report increased inquiries, higher sales and a better business mood. They attribute the change to, among other things, falling interest rates and optimism. Reserve Bank permission to bring in capital through the financial rand has meant more customers. Some are permitted 100 percent financial rand purchases while others must split their deals 50:50 with the commercial rand. Camdons's joint MD Scott McRae recently sold a house in Johannesburg's northern suburbs to a British buyer for R360 000. He was granted permission within 10 days to pay fully through the financial rand. Pieter Hamman at de Huizemark says the general increase in Johannesburg home sales has been across a wide area. And real estate in the Western Cape is sending signals that it is at last coming out of the doldrums. [Text] [Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English 16 Sep 86 p 1] /9317

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